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SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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REPORT ON NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (M) CONFERENCE

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 9 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] National Awami Party led by Professor Muzaffar Ahmed yesterday stressed the need for uniting whom it called democratic and progressive forces to overcome the political impasse now prevailing in the country.

It was resolved in the conference of the party which concluded yesterday at Hotel Eden.

The resolution said that only the anti-liberation forces should not be blamed for the present political situation.

The disunity among the democratic and progressive forces is also responsible for it.

After a series of resolutions were adopted the new national council and national committee were announced on the concluding day of the two-day conference of the party.

Prof. Muzaffar has once again been elected chief of his faction of NAP. Pir Habibur Rahman and Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan have become General Secretary and Treasurer of the party respectively.

The two newly-elected central bodies of Muzaffar NAP will operate for next three-years.

The party in a resolution vowed to continue with its efforts to establish socialism through phasewise peaceful movement.

Regarding a mass movement the party observed that the people of this country have always responded to the call for such a movement but only after a long respite.

Urging the party workers to build up a mass movement according to the temper and mood of the people--one of its resolutions said that the launching of a movement every now and then was an act of adventurism.

Describing the present mode of economy as neo-colonial and very much dependent on imperialism, the party called for setting up heavy engineering industries in the public sector with the help of socialist countries as a key to the industrial development in order to shake off economic dependence on the foreign countries. The protection of nationalised industries was also demanded.

Referring to the agricultural sector the resolutions of the party demanded fixation of the ceiling of agricultural land at 30 bighas in the case of two crop land and 50 bighas in the case of one-crop land and distribution of the remaining agricultural land among the landless peasants.

The party emphasised the imperative need of setting up agricultural co-operatives and arranging for mechanised cultivation.

The party also demanded an administration based on people's representation, compulsory mass education, free trade union right, true non-aligned foreign policy and repeal of all black laws including Press and Publication Ordinance and the vested Property Act.

It also called for peaceful settlement of all issues with neighbouring countries including India.

Remark on Journalist Denied

Mr Nirmal Biswas, Office Secretary of National Awami Party (Muzaffar) yesterday said his party's President Professor Muzaffar Ahmed did not make any blanket remark on the journalists in the inaugural session of the NAP Conference on Sunday, reports ENA.

In a statement yesterday, Mr Biswas said Professor Muzaffar Ahmed wanted to mean that his statements are not properly published in the bourgeoisie press." Prof Ahmed also wanted to mean that journalists are to publish news in accordance with the desire of the owners of the respective newspapers, Mr Biswas added.

ENA correspondent who covered the inaugural session of the NAP Conference maintains that the news item carried by ENA was the reproduction of Professor Muzaffar Ahmed's remark on journalists.

CSO: 4220/7030

NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (H) HOLDS PUBLIC MEETING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 18 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The public meeting of Bangladesh National Awami Party (H) held on Wednesday at the Baitul Mukarram Square called upon the government to recognise the governments of Heng Semrin of Kampuchea and Barbak Karmal of Afghanistan.

The meeting was organised on the concluding day of the demand week observed by the party. Presided over by Choudhury Harunur Rashid, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Messrs Pankaj Bhattacharya, General Secretary, Azizul Islam Khan and Ahmedur Rahman Azmi, Vice-Presidents and Binod Behari Nag, Kazi Abdul Jalil and Prof Fazlul Huq Khandoker, central leaders of NAP(H).

The meeting in a resolution demanded declaration of whole of the country as distressed areas. It demanded reduction of the prices of all agricultural inputs and essential commodities, full rationing for the peasants and workers, fair prices of agriculture products, ban on imports of luxury items, establishment of industries in public sector, protection to nationalised sector and local industries and introduction of mass oriented education system.

Choudhury Harunur Rashid in his speech said that the present problems of the country could not be solved by changing the government or the ministers. He said that socialism was the only solution to the problems.

The NAP President said that the imperialist countries made Bangladesh a market for selling their commodities with the support and assistance of the government.

Choudhury Harunur Rashid called upon all those who believed in socialism to unite and to struggle for establishing socialism in the country.

Mr Pankaj Bhattacharya said that the recent happenings in the country had proved that there was no existence of ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). He said that the BNP government was in power although it had no support of the party.

The General Secretary of NAP referred to the statement of Mr Ferdous Qureshi, Joint Secretary General of BNP and said that when a political government did not get the support of the party then the situation should be termed as alarming.

Mr Bhattacharya said that the present government was running the country at the instance from "Pindi, Peking, Pentagon and Petro-dollar."

Mr Bhattacharya termed the economy of the country as "impotent" and said that such economy could not solve the problems of the common man. He said that late President Ziaur Rahman led the country towards a capitalist system. The present famine situation and ruination of local industries were the results of that system, he said.

CSO: 4220/7043

FOURTH CONGRESS OF MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY HELD

Toaha Reelected Chairman

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 16 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] Mr Mohammad Toaha, M.P., has been reelected the Chairman of Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal (M-L) along with Mr Shanti Sen and Professor Yakub Ali as its Vice-President and General Secretary at the fourth congress of the party which concluded in Bhairab, Nymensingh on Sunday.

The congress held for three days reviewed the national and international situation and determined its tasks. It called upon all patriotic, progressive and democratic political parties to forge a greater national unity to establish a people's democratic government to attain emancipation of the masses.

It identified the comprador-bureaucrat capital, remnants of feudalism and neo-colonial exploitation of the imperialist capital as specific enemies of the people.

Report on Proceedings

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 16 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] The fourth national congress of Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal (M-L-Nagen Sarkar Group) ended in Dacca on March 11, according to a Press release issued on Monday.

General Secretary of the party Khandakar Ali Abbas was in the chair. The representatives of Bangladesher Communist League (M-L), Bangladesher Biplobi Communist Party (M-L) and the United Congress Preparatory Committee delivered their messages of felicitation at the congress.

In its political resolution the congress observed that the contradiction between the comprador bureaucratic class and the people was the principal contradiction now.

The congress elected a 3-member Presidium and a 12-member central committee.

Khandakar Abbas Ali was elected president of the presidium with Dilip Barua and Haji Bashirullah Alam as members of the presidium, the Press release said.

CSO: 4220/7038

COMMUNIST LEADER SPEAKS AT ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 7 Mar 82 p 12

[Text] Mr Moni Singh, President, Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) on Saturday said that the "sapling of socialism planted by the CPB in this soil has been growing every day as against the gradual deterioration in the giant capitalistic system."

The CPB chief was delivering his presidential address at a discussion meeting organised by the party on the occasion of its 34th founding anniversary.

He said that in view of its limited strength CPB had not been able to exert influence on the political arena of the country. He, however, said that the party was gaining strength gradually and would one day establish socialism in the country.

Mr Moni Singh detailed the activities of the party since its inception and said that CPB had participated in all movements launched at different times in the country.

He said that it was CPB which influenced the then Muslim Awami League to drop the word Muslim and become Awami League.

He called upon all progressive forces to be united to bring an end to the existing "sterile political situation."

The discussion meeting was participated by party General Secretary Mr Mohammad Farhad, Mr Ali Aksad, Prof Abdul Halim, Mr Sekhar Dutta and Mr Mujahidul Islam Selim.

Mr Mohammad Farhad called for greater unity among the forces believed in socialism and said that the traditional politics had failed to solve the problems of the common man.

The CPB General Secretary said that the ruling party had also failed to solve the problems of the people as it was busy in solving its internal squabbles.

Mr Mujahidul Islam Selim observed that the country had been facing critical situation and the political situation on the brink of collapse.

He said that when the ruling party was beset with internal squabbles the opposition political parties were also suffering from internal differences and aimlessness.

CSO: 4220/7029

PATTERN OF FOREIGN AID TO BANGLADESH REVIEWED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 7 Mar 82 pp 7, 9

[Article by Mohammed Parvez Imdad]

[Text] In spite of the controversy over the economic and socio-political impact of foreign assistance, there is little reason to contradict the view that the pattern of economic development of the country will continue to be determined by such aid flows in the coming years. This assumption necessarily follows from the fact that a major breakthrough in the level of domestic resource mobilisation as a substitute for the increasing degree of dependence on foreign economic assistance is unlikely at least in the immediate future. In fact, Bangladesh had become dependent on foreign aid even before liberation. Though in the fifties, there was surplus of export earning over imports, this surplus turned into deficit when the volume of imports into the country began to rise significantly in the late fifties and early sixties due to the drawing up of industrialisation programmes. For instance in the first half of the sixties, in the then Pakistan's Second Five-Year Plan period, import payments amounted to nearly 11 percent while export earnings came to about 9.5 percent of GDP. This deficit of about 1.5 percent in the external payments position had to be met with aid inflows.

In the second half of the sixties, the rate of growth of the Gross Domestic Product turned out to be higher than the rate of increase in the external trade of the country. Consequently, the value of export earnings and import payments as percentage of GDP declined to some extent. An estimate reveals that in the sixties, 80 percent of the imports into the country were financed with the help of our own export earnings while 20 percent of the imports came under external assistance programmes. At about that period, average annual aid inflow was about \$150 million and the key areas of utilisation of this aid were obtaining foodgrains, agricultural inputs and various other commodities from abroad and also to finance development projects in the various sectors of economic growth. In the immediate pre-liberation period (in 1969-70) annual foreign aid flow amounted to a little more than \$200 million. The analysis that follows is that in the pre-liberation period, though the level of dependence on foreign aid was steadily increasing, it was not critical.

After liberation there was a massive change in the pattern of our import dependence. The reasons were: (a) The damages and destruction caused during the War of Liberation had to be taken care of immediately. Efforts at reconstruction and rehabilitation involved huge amounts of external assistance, (b) As a consequence, volume of our export earnings came down dramatically, (c) This factor was coupled with the immediate loss of markets abroad.

For instance, in 1972-73, export earnings came down to less than two-thirds of the level in the late 60s. This was also because the productive capacity and production base were greatly hampered, (d) With lower domestic production on one hand and increasing level of imports along with sharp rises in import prices of various goods, the trade gap continued to widen and increased aid flow helped us in meeting this trade gap.

The dramatic change in the degree of import dependence in the immediate post-liberation period is evident from the following instances: (1) In 1972-73 import payments rose to more than \$1,000 million as compared to \$650 million in pre-liberation period, (2) In 1972-73 import payments jumped up to more than 17 percent of GDP as compared about 11 percent immediately before liberation. (3) Volume of export earnings declined from 8.5 percent to 6 percent of the GDP for that period. (4) Average annual aid flow jumped up to nearly 10 percent of GDP in 1972-73 as compared to about 3 percent in 1969-70. (e) Foreign Aid had to be used to pay for about 70 percent of our import bill. Thus, since liberation, aid became the major determinant not only of domestic economic activities including production, but also for consumption in the form of importing foodgrains and other essentials.

The flow of aid just after liberation were meant mainly for staying off famine and starvation, provision of basic needs on an emergency basis and for undertaking rehabilitation and reconstruction of the war-ravaged economy. And hence raising of productive capacity could not have been effected by such aid. However, project aid meant for building up productive activities within the country began to assume importance from 1973-74 onwards.

An analytical study of the foreign aid situation reveals that since liberation till June 1981, the total aid offered by the donors to Bangladesh is \$11.13 billion. Of this, 46.6 percent was committed as Project Aid, 21.6 percent as Food Aid and 31.8 percent as commodity aid. Disbursements, however, had not been identical with that pattern, and the percentage of disbursement had been lesser, some tables are presented below:

Table I
Disbursement of Foreign Aid in Bangladesh
(In million US dollar)

Year	Food aid	Commodity aid	Total non-project aid	Project aid	Total aid
1972-73	182.5	288.5	471.0		
1973-74	228.7	103.3	332.0	80.0	551.0
1974-75	382.3	375.7	753.0	124.3	456.3
1975-76	313.5	368.7	682.2	144.4	902.4
1976-77	120.9	250.9	371.8	124.4	806.6
1977-78	177.9	374.2	552.1	149.6	521.4
1978-79	178.7	482.4	661.1	268.6	820.7
1979-80	375.3	388.1	763.4	370.8	1031.9
1980-81	240.0	480.0	720.0	468.8	1232.2
(Estimate)				570.0	1290.0

Sources: (1) Planning Commission
(2) "Foreign Aid in Bangladesh"--Prof. Dr Mosharraf Hussain and M. Parvez Imdad--Paper presented at 5th Annual Conference of Bangladesh Economic Association

Table II
Commitments and Disbursements of Foreign Aid

Year	Pipeline	Commitments during the year	Total Availability	Disbursement during the year	(5) as percentage of (4)
1972-73	340.9	1892.0	1232.9		
1973-74	681.9	551.3	1233.2	551.0	44.7
1974-75	776.9	1287.3	2064.2	456.3	37.0
1975-76	1161.8	958.0	2119.8	902.4	43.7
1976-77	1313.2	736.5	2049.7	806.6	38.1
1977-78	1528.3	1173.9	2702.2	521.4	25.4
1978-79	1881.5	1813.1	3694.6	820.7	30.4
1979-80	2662.7	1196.1	3858.8	1031.9	27.9
1980-81	2626.6	1904.0	4530.6	1232.2	31.9
(Estimate)				1290.0	28.5

Sources: (1) Planning Commission
(2) "Foreign Aid in Bangladesh"--Prof. Dr Mosharraf Hussain and M. Parvez Imdad--Paper presented at 5th Annual Conference of Bangladesh Economic Association, 30th April to 2nd May 1981

So far as development activities are concerned, project aid assumes importance as this aid is directly linked with the sphere of productive activities. The nature and pattern of aid dependence is more closely associated with the terms and conditions of such flow of aid, as distinct from Food Aid or Commodity Aid.

Therefore, it is imperative that since liberation the deteriorating trend in our terms of trade has lowered our capacity to pay for our exports tremendously. With increasing trade deficit (about \$439 million in 1976-77), our development strategy for other sectors of the economy may not make much headway unless the deficit is narrowed down.

Since drastic reduction in aid is not possible immediately the present flow of aid should be utilised in a manner whereby local productive capacities would expand. A pragmatic policy of import substitution is also the need of the hour. Top priority is to be attached to domestic production of agricultural inputs as well as engines, spare parts, etc., for the manufacturing sector. In order to meet the local demand for machines and equipment the operational efficiency and domestic productive capacity of our public enterprises should be attained. Careful allocation of aid on priority schemes would ensure efficiency and prevent unproductive utilisation. Effective monitoring and maintenance of implementation schedule is vital for aided projects.

The Second 5-Year Plan emphasises on progressive reduction of dependence on external assistance by the end of the Perspective Plan period. This had also been manifested in the First Five-Year Plan. The necessity of resources to meet our development needs (as well as consumption) have to be met gradually for domestic sources, if perpetual dependence on external economic assistance is to be avoided in the long-run. All our development strategies and programmes included therein should be oriented towards that objective.

CSO: 4220/7029

BANGLADESH

JSD LEADERS REGRET 'POLITICAL VOID' IN COUNTRY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 18 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Leaders of the Jatiya Samaj tantrik Dal (JSD) at a discussion meeting in observance of March 17 on Wednesday said that there was a political void in the country which had enabled the present government to stick to power for long.

JSD observed March 17 to commemorate the killing of two party workers by Rakkhi Bahini in front of the then Home Minister's residence in 1974.

Participants at the discussion meeting pointed out that no political party, including JSD, had been able to give the nation a positive programme for emancipation of the masses.

Presided over by Mirza Sultan Raja, Vice-President of JSD, discussion meeting was addressed by Mr Shahjahan Siraj, MP and Joint Secretary of the party, Mohammad Shahjahan, President Jatiya Sramik Oikkyo Jothe, Mr Khaliquzzaman Chowdhury, Dacca city unit of JSD, and Mr Moniruddin, President, Chhatra League.

Mr Shahjahan Siraj called upon all democratic-progressive forces in the country to build up a united movement of the people to remove the "colonial-bureaucratic government" which believed more in "palace intrigues than in democracy."

Mr Shahjahan Siraj pointed out that if JSD's March 17 programme had been successful there would have taken place a revolution of far-reaching consequences.

He said that the Mujib regime had failed to emancipate the people because it had no "positive programme."

He felt that all those who had tried to sacrifice democracy at the altar of one-man rule had been eliminated from power with ignominy. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Khandker Mushtaque Ahmed and Ziaur Rahman had all committed this fault, he added.

Mr Shahjahan Siraj called for making the parliament sovereign in the real sense of the term by introducing a system of "professional representation in the parliament."

Mohammad Shahjahan called upon all democratic forces to unite to remove the "present fascist Government because it had failed to mitigate the sufferings of the downtrodden."

Mirza Sultan Raja in his presidential address said that the present Government characterised by "anti-liberation forces" should be removed through a united movement of the people.

CSO: 4220/7043

BANGLADESH

ECONOMIC COUNCIL PREDICTS SHORTFALL IN GDP TARGET

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 16 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The GDP target of the current Annual Development Programme (ADP) originally fixed at 7 percent is now certain to come down to an alarming state.

It was apprehended in a recent meeting of the National Economic Council held to review the ADP and the reasons were attributed to various factors including the drought.

During discussions on the GDP concern was expressed over the increasing balance of payment against the country and poor export earnings despite rise in the export volume.

It was also pointed out that the living standard of the people had come under severe inflationary pressure. It was suggested that further deficit financing should not be resorted to in the current fiscal year in order to prevent the inflation.

It was reported that many government organisations had taken up a number of projects out of the ADP during the last fiscal year.

Following the reduction in the revised ADP allocation the investment in the agricultural sector would be relatively poorer, it was learnt.

Organisational and procedural problems were identified as factors responsible for the delay in the release of ADP allocation. A suggestion was placed to form a committee to review this situation and consider with due importance the appointment of additional officers in the programming divisions of the Planning and Finance Ministries.

One view advocated to entrust the Railway, Roads and Highways Ministry with the power of reappropriation. The continuation of the construction of the feeder roads by the organisations which used to do it earlier was also suggested.

It was pointed out that the reduction in the ADP allocation would affect the road construction programme including the projects undertaken at the directive of late President Ziaur Rahman.

Since the revised ADP has not given priority to the construction of food-grain godowns it was apprehended that to line up loan from the donor countries and agencies in future will be difficult.

Postponement of some projects was also suggested without affecting overall development target.

It may be mentioned that a total of 1726 projects were included in the original ADP and the number was slashed down to 1679 in the revised ADP out of which 197 projects may be completed by the end of this fiscal year

The decisions adopted in the meeting were that the necessary fund would be provided to the projects reaching completion, new projects would not be undertaken unless resource mobilisation is possible, disbursement of ADP fund had to be sped up and commitment of foreign aid should not be obtained for any project without mobilising adequate finance if the present economic situation continues.

CSO: 4220/7039

AFGHAN AMBASSADOR REPORTED TO LEAVE WITHOUT NOTICE

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Ambassador of Afghanistan in Bangladesh, Mr Mohammad Anwar Khaker left Dacca "unusually" without giving prior information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr Khaker was learnt to have gone to Pakistan on February 26 along with his family members--wife, one daughter and three sons presumably to take political asylum there in protest against the Soviet military aggression in his country.

When contacted the Foreign Secretary, Mr Humayun Rashid Choudhury told The New Nation that the ministry later received a note from the Afghan embassy here that the ambassador left Dacca after completion of the term of his diplomatic assignment.

The Afghan Ambassador did not pay any farewell call on the Foreign Minister and the Foreign Secretary. Neither farewell dinner could be arranged by the Foreign Ministry in his honour usually given before formal departure of any envoy.

The Chief of Protocol who usually bids farewell to any outgoing ambassador could not do so in this case as the Foreign Ministry was not aware beforehand of the Ambassador's sudden departure from Dacca.

According to a diplomat, Ambassador Mr Mohammad Anwar Khaker before his departure handed over charge to the First Secretary of the Afghan embassy, Mr Golam Ghaus Waziri and left Bangladesh quietly for Pakistan.

According to the source, Mr Khaker was "very much disturbed" because of the Soviet military action in Afghanistan since late December 1979. Mr Khaker came to Dacca to take up his ambassadorial assignment in the middle of 1979.

It was learnt that the Charge d'Affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry on Tuesday last to furnish information on the departure of the Afghan Ambassador from Dacca.

The Charge d'Affaires in a note-verbal said that the ambassador handed over the charge to him and left Bangladesh after completion of his term.

When contacted the Charge d'Affaires, Mr Golam Ghaus Waziri expressed his surprise and said the Afghan Ambassador had gone home after his departure from Dacca, so far as he knew.

CSO: 4220/7031

CORRUPTION CASES FILED AGAINST FORMER MINISTERS

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 19 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] The Bureau of Anti-Corruption yesterday lodged four separate FIRs with the Motijheel police station instituting corruption cases against former Deputy Prime Minister S.A. Bari, former Civil Aviation Minister K.M. Obaidur Rahman and former Shipping Minister Capt (retd) Nurul Huq.

It is learnt that Anti-Corruption Bureau has been preparing cases against some other former ministers too, on the charges of malpractices and corruption.

The former ministers have been charged with abuse of official powers and receipt of monetary gain for themselves or for others under Section 5(2) of the Act II of 1947.

Two out of the four cases were registered against Obaidur Rahman while S.A. Bari and Nurul Huq were involved in one case each.

It was alleged in the FIR against S.A. Bari that he misappropriated a sum of about Tk. 70 lakhs which was exacted from persons who were illegally allotted mechanised fishing boats and engines meant for the fishermen's cooperative bodies.

It was mentioned that he had violated specific distribution procedures which provide for the selection of genuine fishermen by a three-member committee of the Fisheries Development Corporation.

According to the FIR, sidetracking the committee, the former minister dishonestly and arbitrarily allotted mechanised boats and engines among 47 non-fishermen parties from November 11 of 1980 to July 2 of 1981.

The Anti-Corruption Department alleged that the genuine fishermen were thus deprived of their due rights and some of the beneficiaries were fake.

The price of each boat was Tk. 2 lakhs, but the former minister gave the boats at a price of Tk. 1 lakh each while the remaining Tk. 1 lakh per boat was misappropriated by him.

The total amount of money defalcated by him on account of the illegal allotment of boats stood at Tk. 47 lakh, the bureau alleged.

Besides, 59 more non-fishermen, some of whom were not even involved in fishing at all, were allotted engines arbitrarily and with dishonest intention bypassing the three-member committee.

It was alleged in the FIR the engines were sold in the black market.

The former Deputy Prime Minister is alleged to have misappropriated Tk. 23 lakhs approximately from allotment of these engines by giving them at a reduced price of Tk. 57,700 while the actual price of each engine was Tk. 95,867.

CSO: 4220/7044

BANGLADESH

BANGLADESH-PRC FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE 'ILLEGAL'

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 14 Mar 82 p 12

[Text] A meeting of the Executive Council of Bangladesh-China Friendship Association held on Friday with Speaker Mirza Golam Hafiz, President of the association in the chair, resolved that formation of a committee led by Mrs Kamrun Nahar Laly in the name of the association was motivated illegal and unconstitutional.

The resolution noted that as there was no provision in the constitution of the association for any emergency extra-ordinary annual general meeting convening such meeting was against the provision of the constitution of the association.

The meeting observed that the so-called committee falsely used the names of the members of the association such as Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, Mr Zumat Ali Khan, Mr Motahar Hossain, Saddiqi Kazi, Zafar Ahmad and others without their consent.

The council strongly condemned what it said conspiratorial move of a few persons to harm the unity and image of the old friendship with the Chinese people and friendship association. It claimed that the association under the leadership of Mirza Golam Hafiz remained firmly united.

The meeting held that the "false committee" had no right to use the name of the friendship association and recommended to the next annual general meeting to take appropriate disciplinary action against the sponsors of the "bogus committee."

The meeting decided to hold the annual general meeting in the first week of the next month.

Among others, Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, Mr Zulmat Ali Khan, Mr S.A. Bar, A.T.D. Fazlul Karim, Mr Nur Mohammad Khan, Mr Serajul Hossain Khan were present at the meeting.

CSO: 4220/7035

BANGLADESH BANK EXPLAINS CREDIT RESTRICTIONS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Article by Moazzem Hossain]

[Text] The total outstanding amount of bank credits in the economy stood at about Taka 4100 crore at the close of the first week of the current month (March '82). This amount included the financial operations of Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha (BSRS) and the transactions in the fiscal account of the government sector.

The related level of outstanding bank credits excluding the operations of ICB, BSRS and the government sector totalled Taka 3700 crore at the close of the last financial year in June '81. The next expansion in bank credits during the first eight month period (July-February) of the current financial year, 1981-82 was thus Taka 400 crore only whereas the related growth in outstanding amount of bank credits was about Taka 1000 crore during the whole fiscal year in 1980-81.

As the credit funds normally tend to roll back to the banks at the close of any financial year, the net amount of credit expansion will in all certainty be much lower in 1981-82 than it was in the preceding fiscal year in 1980-81.

Bangladesh Bank, to mention here, enforced certain credit restrictive measures from September 31 in order to tackle the problems of liquidity overhang resulting in undue price pressures within the economy and to keep the monetary expansion within "safe limits" set by the expected growth in the country's gross domestic product and the anticipated normal price increase during the current financial year. The credit restrictive measures covered particularly general merchandise and trade sector. The measures included both quantitative controls and fixation of item-wise credit margin in the field of import trade.

Bangladesh Bank sources informed this correspondent that the credit restrictive measures would continue in the larger interests of improving the financial management of the economy.

It may be pointed out here that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also felt that credit restrictions are necessary to ensure efficient and better use of credit funds and to contain inflationary price upswing within Bangladesh economy.

Meanwhile, available statistics on outstanding amount of bank credits indicate that the private sector has been receiving about 60 percent of total credit funds with public sector accounting for about 40 percent. Bangladesh Bank sources point out this as a positive improvement in favour of private sector as far as disbursement of bank credits is concerned. The share of private sector in total bank credits was 40 percent and that of public sector 60 percent four years before, the same sources note.

Out of the current total outstanding bank credits of about Taka 4100 crore, jute sector (both in public and private sector) alone accounts for over Taka five hundred crore.

As far as credits on account of fiscal operations of the government sector (which is not included in the amount of total outstanding bank credits) is concerned, there has been a slight contraction in the aggregate level of government's borrowings from the banking sector during the current financial year. The government borrowings including short-term treasury bills, ways and means operation and credits from the commercial banks stood at the level of Taka 1484 crore at the beginning of January '82 as against the related one at Taka 1515 crore at the end of June '82. Involvement of lesser amount of funds in the internal foodgrain procurement programme so far during the current financial year has exerted a contractionary influence on the level of government's deficit on its fiscal account.

Though there has been a deceleration in overall credit expansion within the economy during the July-February period of the current financial year, the overall credit: deposit ratio in the banking sector as a whole presents yet a disconcerting situation. Thus while the deposits of the scheduled banks totalled about 5300 crore in the first week of March '82 the aggregate bank credits stood at about Taka 4100 crore at that time. The re-financing facilities of Bangladesh Bank in different sectors have enabled the banks to fund credits beyond their aggregate level of deposits.

CSO: 4220/7040

AWAMI LEAGUE (H) OBSERVES MUJIB'S BIRTHDAY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 18 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] Leaders of Bangladesh Awami League (Hasina) on Wednesday called for maintaining national and party unity to materialise programme of 'Second Revolution' and 'BKSAL' as envisaged by late Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The call came on the occasion of 63rd birth anniversary of Sheikh Mujib at a discussion meeting held at Ramna Green. Presided over by Mr Korban Ali, member, AL Presidium, the meeting was addressed among others by Presidium members Mr Abdul Malek Ukil, Dr Kamal Hossain, Mr Abdur Razzak, General Secretary, Begum Sajeda Choudhury, Joint Secretary, Sardar Amjad Hossain, Publicity Secretary, Mr Saiahuddin Yusuf, MP Sheikh Abdul Azia and Begum Motia Choudhury.

Korban Ali

Mr Korban Ali declared that his party was united and "there is no contradictions." All the decisions were taken unanimously.

Mr Ali further said that "we are all progressives. The reactionaries have no place among us. All the workers of Bangabandhu are ready to implement Bangabandhu's programme of second revolution and uphold four state principles."

Malek Ukil

Mr Abdul Malek Ukil said, "AL hates to go to power at the cost of the suffering of the people and blood in the streets."

The senior-most member of AL presidium also dwelt on the issue of Mr Muchkunda Dubey the Indian High Commissioner.

He criticised the government's foreign policy and observed how could Government say that Dubey was innocent while its "dalals" (agents) could resort to hunger strike demanding the High Commissioner's expulsion. He complained that the government had failed to use the Special Powers Acts which prohibited utterances against a friendly country. He said that those who spoke against Mr Dubey were not only the "enemies of the Government but also the nation."

Mr Abdul Malek Ukil criticising the Government said that the henchmen of the regime were demanding the Indian High Commissioner on the one hand and the other the government was begging rice from India.

Kamal Hossain

Dr Kamal Hossain said that a serious situation was obtaining in the country. Conspiracies were being hatched against the people, he said. He suggested that the party and the people needed unity to pull the country out of this crisis.

On party unity he said that the Awami League "carried the tradition of struggle of Sheikh Mujib and it must be maintained."

Dr Kamal Hossain said that late Sheikh Mujib was killed by the defeated enemies of 1971.

Abdur Razzak

Mr Abdur Razzak criticised those "who talk in a diplomatic manner" and urged all to "identify clearly the enemies and friends. He urged partymen to face the reality with courage and spread out to every corner of the country with the programme of BKSAL."

He said that late Sheikh Mujibur Rahman always spelt out what he felt. He (Mujib) gave the programme of BKSAL to establish an exploitation free society, Mr Razzak said.

Paying tributes to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman for his anti-imperialist role Mr Abdur Razzak said that had he been alive today he would have been the "leader of the world."

On the killing of Sheikh Mujib Mr Razzak said that the "traitors killed him. We failed to resist them. We must accept this failure."

CSO: 4220/7043

JUSTICE REGRETS STUDENTS USED AS 'POLITICAL TOOLS'

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 17 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The political instability, grave economic crisis, decadence of values and the lack of an ideal powerful political movement in the country were causing restlessness, clash between student bodies and brandishing of arms in the campus deteriorating the academic environment.

This was stated by Mr Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury while addressing as chief guest the installation ceremony of Dacca University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) on Tuesday.

Justice Chowdhury said that some "selfish political quarters" were using the students as their tools.

He regretted that this attitude of the politicians was polluting the campus atmosphere, shattering the image of the students and snatching away the mental capability and consciousness of the students. There in turn were thwarting development of any movement against the degradation of social values, there by hindering the healthy political activities in the campus, he added.

Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of Dacca University and the President of the DUCSU, presided over the installation ceremony and conducted the oath of the newly elected office-bearers of DUCSU.

Held at the university playground the function was addressed, among others by Mr Mahmudur Rahman Manna, outgoing Vice-President of the DUCSU and Messrs Akhteruzzaman and Ziauddin Bablu, newly elected Vice-President and General Secretary of the DUCSU.

Describing the indiscipline and anomalies in the campus as the reflection of the decadence of social values in the country the Supreme Court Judge held the perennial social system and politics dissociated from the society and its people responsible.

He called upon the students' community to be conscious and careful of those hatching conspiracy to distract and mislead them by creating chaos and confusion among themselves. Otherwise this playing of ducks and drakes with the lives of the students would call hard times for the youth community, he added. He, however, expressed his positive contention in favour of proper student politics in the interest of rearing up capable leadership for the future.

Comparing the sacredness of the campus with that of the judiciary, Justice Chowdhury urged all to uphold the sanctity of the two institutions through all-round efforts.

Referring to the responsibility of the political leaders and the intelligentsia of the country towards students' progress he said that they should render cooperation for the free exercise of knowledge of the students so that they could play their "historical role."

In his presidential address Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury underscored the need for re-evaluation and change in the educational system. He said that it must be made according to the demands of our national life and the need of society. Otherwise only a particular class of the society would be benefited, he maintained.

Prof Chowdhury focused on the multifarious problems of the university and its different residential halls.

CSO: 4220/7041

ROMANIA PLEDGES INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Romania has pledged a 500 million dollar credit for the industrial development of Bangladesh reports BSS.

This was disclosed by Industries Minister Prof Yusuf Ali in Dacca on Monday on his return after a three-day visit to Romania.

The minister during the visit also discussed with the Romanian authorities the question of utilisation of the remaining portion of another fifty million U.S. dollar credit to Bangladesh.

The five hundred million US dollar credit which was pledged in principle during late President Zia's visit to Bucharest had been formally granted by Romania on February 16 last. An agreement on the credit is expected to be signed soon, the Minister said.

The Industries Minister said that the proposed Romanian credit would be utilised for setting up workshops for textile spinning mills, central work shop for spare parts for textile knitwear, factory PVC complex by utilising natural gas drillings, poultry complex and a modern furniture complex.

He said that during his talks with Romanian authorities he had proposed for repayment of major portion of the credit through Bangladesh commodities. The Romanian Government had assured him of considering the proposal.

Prof Yusuf Ali said that the Romanian had also agreed to accept Bangladesh's proposal for six percent down payment after two months of shipment instead of down payment within thirty days of agreement.

During the visit the Industries Minister called on Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and handed over a message of President Abdus Sattar to him. The Romanian President paid rich tribute to the late President Ziaur Rahman for his outstanding achievements.

President Ceausescu also greeted President Sattar and expressed his good wishes for the prosperity of the peoples of Bangladesh.

Prof Yusuf Ali met the Romanian Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Machine Tools, Industries Minister of Machine Building Industries and Co-Chairman of Bangladesh-Romania Joint Economic Commission and Minister of Light Industries.

During the meetings the Industries Minister discussed with them various aspects of techno-economic cooperation and commercial exchanges and the possibilities of developing mutual cooperation to raise the volume of trade between the two countries.

During the visit the Minister has also signed a memorandum of understanding under which Romania would import jute, jute goods as well as non-traditional items.

Prof Yusuf Ali on his way back home also visited Iraq, Jordan and Turkey. During meetings his Jordanian and Iraqi counterparts had shown their interest in expanding trade and commerce with Bangladesh. They also proposed to send delegations from Bangladesh to these two countries to explore the possibilities of expanding areas of bilateral cooperation and the volume of existing trade and commerce.

Mr Abul Hossain, Director Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation accompanied the Minister.

CSO: 4220/7036

MINISTRY REPORTS ON FOREIGN AID UTILIZATION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 14 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Article by M.R. Rousseau]

[Text] The total amount of external aid mobilised by the Government up to June 30, 1981 since independence stood at 10,678.4 million dollars which comprised food, commodity, project aids and technical assistance.

The External Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance in its Annual Report, 1980-81 says that of the total committed amount, 7,753.3 million dollars had been utilised and 3,125.1 million dollars remained available in the pipeline as on July 1, 1981. During the year 1980-81 the ERD signed agreement or reached understanding for 1,642.1 million dollars as external aid (1,038 million dollars as loan and 603.2 million dollars as grant).

The report points out that during the initial years of independence external assistance financed consumption expenditure in a large way. The relief and rehabilitation phase of the economy demanded such a state of affairs. Gradually a change in the pattern of commitment and utilization of aid began to take shape, it said. The ERD report pointed out that during 1980-81 compared to previous years there was a lesser flow of food aid because of improvement in the production of foodgrain in the country. Like previous years, however, project aid utilisation was higher than commodity aid utilisation.

Debt Liability

It appeared from the report that despite the government's efforts for obtaining better terms of aid, the debt servicing liability of the country rose to 85 million dollars, representing 12 percent of the annual export earnings.

In 1980-81 hard term borrowing was successfully resisted and in bilateral negotiations as well as in multilateral for the need for softening terms of assistance and converting past debt liability into grants were strongly emphasised. "In pursuance of the decision of the Trade and Development Board of the UNCTAD taken in March 1978, past debt liability was converted into grants by a number of donors," the report said.

Commodity Aid

In 1980-81 counterpart funds generated by utilization of commodity aid amounted to Tk. 605 crore.

"Efforts were made to plug leakages in the matter of generation of counterpart funds," the report said.

The report added that for the betterment of the system of generation of counterpart fund efforts were made to clear the shipment of goods through banking channel in the cases where donors usually bought goods at home and shipped to Bangladesh.

Project Aid

The opening pipeline of project aid in 1980-81 was 2,159.5 million dollars, the commitment and disbursement being 1,102.3 million dollars and 560.2 million dollars, respectively.

The report pointed out that in matters of utilisation of multilateral aid as well as aid from single donors there was much room for improvement.

Reimbursement of local currency expenditure from project aid, the report went on, lagged somewhat behind. Only Tk. 96 crore was reimbursed during the year, it said.

The ERD report pointed out that the United States of America, one of the major bilateral donors of Bangladesh, had committed 1605.887 million dollars as grants and aid to Bangladesh up to June 30, 1981.

Japan, another major donor, had committed 798.89 million dollars as loan and 199.41 million dollars as aid from 1972 to 1980-81.

India has so far provided Rs. 285.85 crore as aid, of which Rs. 157.77 crore were in the form of grants.

Saudi Arabia had committed between 1972 and 1981 a total of 315 million dollars, out of which only 80 million dollars were in the shape of loan.

Soviet Union had committed 287 million dollars to Bangladesh between 1972 and 1980-81 of which 165.4 million dollars were disbursed.

Delegations

The ERD report said that during 1980-81 more than 400 foreign delegations were received by the division. About 50 important delegations were also sponsored abroad by the division during the year.

Meetings

About 200 inter-ministerial meetings were held during the year 1980-81. The meetings discussed and finalised various aid agreements and reviewed the utilization of aid.

CSO: 4220/7035

AGREEMENT ON UN DEVELOPMENT AID SIGNED IN DACCA

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Mr Galal Magdi, Saturday indicated "substantial increase of the fund's contribution to Bangladesh in the coming years, reports BSS.

Talking to newsmen after signing a basic agreement with Bangladesh providing a legal framework to the terms and conditions under which UNCDF will extend assistance, Mr Magdi hoped it (agreement) would facilitate implementation of the ongoing projects and expedite flow of fund.

Mr Magdi, a second ranking official of the fund, arrived in Dacca on February 28 leading a four-member delegation on a week's visit to hold discussions with government leaders about future assistance of UNCDF.

The fund's activities in Bangladesh began in 1976 and till now it has committed 6.7 million U.S. dollars to support those development and investment activities which will build and strengthen country's economic and social infrastructure.

The Executive Secretary of UNCDF said the agreement "indicated our desire to increase involvement" in Bangladesh.

Mr Kazi Fazlur Rahman, Secretary External Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance signed the agreement on behalf of Bangladesh government.

Mr Magdi said the fund's activities concentrate in four major fields--food production and storage, industrialization, particularly agro-based industries, development of alternate energies and meeting the basic needs of the common people. Mr Magdi who met Finance Minister Adviser of Planning and a number of high government officials said he was very satisfied with the "useful dialogue" with them.

Mr Magdi informed that the UNCDF, UNDP and Bangladesh government had resolved that the Mirpur resettlement project would soon be completed.

Mr Walter Holzhausen, UN Resident Coordinator was present on the occasion.

The delegation leaves today (Sunday).

CSO: 4220/7027

BANGLADESH

FUND OFFICIAL NOTES HANDLING OF FARM AID

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 13 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Bangladesh has been able to improve substantially her "absorptive capacity," in handling overseas aid, Dr McDonald Benjamin, Director of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) said in Dacca on Friday, reports BSS.

He told a press briefing at the conference room of External Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance in the afternoon that compared to the situation few years back, the country had surely improved her capability in implementing development projects supported by international agencies.

Dr Benjamin, who is Director for Asia and the Far East of the Rome-based fund, was on a five-day tour of the country. Mr S.N. Saigal, project controller of the IFAD accompanied him during the tour designed to review the progress of the fund's projects in Bangladesh.

"Bangladesh's performance is quite satisfactory," Dr Benjamin said when asked to give his impression about implementation of the IFAD-aided projects in the country. The pace of implementation had been slow in certain cases, he pointed out but hoped that "the lost grounds will be recovered."

Since the beginning of its operations in 1978, the funds has committed over 100 million US dollars in four major projects in Bangladesh, almost at the rate of one project a year.

"This may not be very significant in terms of the needs of Bangladesh," but IFAD considers it important in view of the limited operations of the fund which directs its assistance to the 'poorest of the poor countries'" Dr Benjamin said.

The four IFAD-aided projects in Bangladesh are: 30 million US dollar Pabna irrigation project, 25 million dollar fertilizer supply and storage project, 23 million dollar rural banking project and 24 million dollar southwest rural development project.

Each of these projects has several components related to agricultural development: irrigation, flood control, fertilizer production, storage and supply and rural employment, each at various stages of implementation.

The IFAD Director said that the fund was particularly concerned with the problems of small and landless farmers who constituted a great majority in Bangladesh.

During his discussions with officials in Dacca, the problems of the landless and small farmers as well as those with regard to food production and nutrition also came up for review.

He lauded the efforts of Bangladesh in increasing food production which resulted in substantial reduction in the imports and said that apart from the recent drought there has been a "favourable weather in Asia this season" which Bangladesh is expected to share and reap a good harvest.

Giving a general outline of the fund's structure and operations, Dr Benjamin said that over the past four years IFAD had committed nearly 1.25 billion US dollars in eighty countries. He said seventy percent of these resources went to the poorest of the poor and Bangladesh was high on the list of IFAD support.

The IFAD governing council last January approved the second replenishment of the fund worth about 1.1 billion US dollars and unanimously agreed to establish the fund's headquarters at Rome.

CSO: 4220/7032

FOOD PROCUREMENT REPORTEDLY SHORT OF TARGET

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 13 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The pace of the seasonal internal procurement programme of the Government has been lagging far behind the original target. Even the downward revision of the target of the Ministry of Food for procurement of the foodgrains is also found to be unrealistic.

This in turn reflects the unrealistic assessment on the part of the government about the estimated shortage of foodgrains in the current financial year.

The quantity of wheat, aman, aush and boro procured in the current year is substantially less than the quantity procured in the corresponding period of last year.

The original target of the foodgrain procurement was fixed at 11 lakh-tons. This target was subsequently revised by the Government and drastically reduced to 4.50 lakh tons. Even this revised procurement target, as far as official statistics revealed, would not be possible to achieve.

Till Thursday last the total procurement of wheat, aush, aman and boro stood at two lakh 92 thousand tons.

Though the procurement of boro will probably be launched in the month of April, Ministry of Agriculture apprehends that the production of boro is likely to fall short of the target by about 10 lakh tons. The procurement drive will also bear the same fate.

The wheat procurement programme which is scheduled to begin from March 19 envisaged a seasonal target of one lakh ton. In the last financial year total quantity of wheat procured stood at 12 thousand tons only.

In the current financial year, officials are expecting only 10 thousand tons.

In the corresponding period of the last year the total procurement of wheat, aman, aush and boro was recorded at 4.50 lakh tons.

CSO: 4220/7033

SHORTCOMINGS IN SUGAR CROP MANAGEMENT NOTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] More than 1.55 lakh tons of sugar has been produced at 14 operating sugar mills in the country till Sunday. The production is only 10 thousand tons short of this year's target. The crushing season commenced from November last and is expected to continue till mid-April with a huge amount of sugar cane still in the fields.

Of the four lakh acres brought under sugar cane cultivation this season, nearly 1.92 lakh acres were under the sugar mill areas with a yield of more than 20 lakh tons of cane. During the last season, however, the area brought under cane cultivation was 1.55 lakh acres yielding nearly 18 lakh tons of cane. The total sugar production in the last season was 1.42 lakh tons.

The existing sugar mills proved to be insufficient in relation to the cane production due to the fact that if the sugar cane is not crushed within the stipulated time their sugar content (sucrose) dries up resulting in low percentage of extraction.

During my recent visit to a number of sugar mills and the Sugarcane Research Institute lack of proper planning was significant. There are very few mills with their own cane fields and the rest have to depend on farmers with profitable crops. Cultivable lands are limited to motivators like sugar mills, tobacco factories and various others being innumerable. The option rests on the farmers on what they would cultivate. The farmers from their consideration grow that crop which would bring them more profit at a less period. This results in the fluctuation of cane production which ultimately hampers sugar prices. The sugar mills are seasonal industries but their role as import-substitute units needs proper protection by the authorities. Though the cost and freight (C&F) prices of imported sugar are a bit less present sugar production can suffice the local demands and as much the country is being saved from spending a lot of foreign exchange. The import of sugar was banned by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports last October but surprisingly a good number of sugar shipments has already reached Chittagong through "special permission" according to a high official. The two sugar mills that I visited and the statistics of some mills showed that the cost of production ranged from Taka 360 to Taka 400 during

the last season. Crushing being greater this season the cost of production is expected to be a little lower. Eighty percent of the sugar is bought by the government at Taka 454.65 per maund, nearly 15 percent is sold to dealers at Taka 560 per maund while the rest is usually bought by the growers themselves at the rate of Taka 480 per maund.

According to an official of a certain mill this assurance cannot be motivated by the mill authorities but from the top in a planned way. Proper maintenance and spare parts replacement is necessary for smooth running of an old mill.

It may be mentioned here that during the off-crushing period the machinery of the whole unit is overhauled, serviced and replaced with parts as required. North Bengal Sugar Mill has experienced decades of crushing and is on the brink of a breakdown. The permission of cane sale to the mills commonly known as "purji" used to be issued by the mill authorities previously but recently a committee with the local elite was set up to issue the same. In spite of this there has been reports of bribery for issuance of "purjis." The mill authorities provide incentives to the growers in the form of fertilizer, seeds and seedlings and related materials, the value of which is later deducted from their sale.

Sugar cane research takes eight to 10 years to produce a single variety. The high yield variety of ISD-16 is yet to reach the farmers. Sugar extraction will be around 10 percent from this yield in place of eight in the existing qualities. The acreage yield will also be much higher than the existing ones. The progress of the Cane Research Institute is quite slow due to its time consuming experiments but technical cooperation with other countries is lacking in high-yielding varieties. Steps are being taken in joint collaboration and cooperation for producing high-yielding varieties in the country.

CSO: 4220/7036

BRIEFS

ERSHAD 15 MAR SPEECH--Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, on Monday stressed the need for discipline in every sphere of national life for country's progress and prosperity, reports BSS. A nation could not survive or attain its goal of self-reliance without proper discipline, the General said. General Ershad who is also Chairman of Bangladesh Olympic Association was addressing as the chief guest the prize giving ceremony of Teigaon College in Dacca Monday morning. Among others Major General (Retd) Nurul Islam, a former Minister, Mr A.M. Mufazzal, Editor of Bangladesh Times, Mr Khan-e-Alam Khan, Commissioner, Dacca Division and Mr Tofael Ahmed Chowdhury, Principal of the college spoke on the occasion. General Ershad called upon the students to pursue their studies with utmost dedication and grow up as worthy citizens of the country. He lauded the role of the students of the college and asked them to maintain discipline at any cost. He said Teigaon College was an exception where no posters were found. He also announced a donation of Taka 20 thousand from the Olympic Association for buying sports materials for the college. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 82 p 1]

BITUMIN TO INDIA--India became the first importer of Bangladeshi bitumin when she takes delivery of 20,000 metric tons of bitumin valued at over Taka ten crore during the current fiscal year, reports BSS. An agreement to this effect was signed in Dacca between Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) and the Indian Oil Corporation for the export of bitumin by next June. Meanwhile the first consignment of 500 metric tons of bitumin was sent from Chittagong on Sunday for Latu border (Sylhet) by rail, a BPC Press release said. The factory that produced bitumin, the Asphaltic Bitumin Plant, Chittagong, a subsidiary of BPC went into commercial production in January last year. The plant having an installed capacity of 70,000 metric tons a year is capable to export up to 35,000 tons after meeting domestic requirements. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 82 p 1]

MALDIVES BANKING AGREEMENT--Male (Maldives) March 15--The Maldives and Bangladesh yesterday signed an agreement under which the two governments will jointly invest in and operate the newly formed Maldives Bank to be opened for commercial transactions within two months, reports Reuter. The Maldives Government has the majority share holding with the Bangladesh side having a 40 percent share. From Bangladesh International Finance and Investment Corporation (IFIC) has the majority involvement in the project. The

nationalised banks in Bangladesh are partners in IFIC which have entered into joint venture with the Maldives Government in setting up the bank. The new bank is the first to be opened in the Maldives with Maldivian participation. At present three foreign banks cater for the commercial needs. The Maldives formed its own monetary authority last year to formulate banking and monetary policy. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 82 p 1]

TIES WITH QATAR--Mr Ali Sultan Zaman, the Charge d'Affaires of Qatar called on Foreign Minister Prof M. Shamsul Huq in his office on Wednesday morning to present his letter of introduction, reports BSS. Mr Zaman will head the newly opened mission of Qatar in Bangladesh. Warmly welcoming the new Charge d'Affaires, the Foreign Minister expressed the hope that the friendly relations between the two brotherly countries would receive a new impetus with the opening of the diplomatic mission, resulting in increasing cooperation between them in various fields. Bangladesh has also a mission in Qatar and the relation between the two brotherly countries have in recent years grown substantially. A large number of Bangladeshis are now employed by the government of Qatar in various capacities. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Mar 82 p 1]

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CREDIT--A credit agreement for agricultural extension and research in Bangladesh was signed in Washington on Monday by the Government of Bangladesh and the World Bank, (IDA), according to a delayed report received in Dacca on Wednesday, reports BSS. The agreement will provide for agricultural support services in certain areas in Bangladesh. The present extension research system will be expanded and some of the agricultural research stations will be upgraded and completed. Under the agreement the IDA will provide dollar 27 million. The credit has a term of 50 years including ten years of grace. It is interest-free but carries a service charge of 3/4 of one percent a year to help cover IDA's administrative cost. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Mar 82 p 1]

NEPAL-BANGLADESH TRANSIT--Rangpur, March 6--Mr Gohendra Bahadur Rajkandari, Nepalese Ambassador in Bangladesh, said that his Government would supply foodgrains to Bangladesh to meet its food requirements. He was talking to local Pressmen at Rangpur Circuit House tonight. Mr Gohendra is now touring Rangpur and Dinajpur districts to find out the nearest point from Nepal to establish a road transit in between Nepal and Bangladesh via India. As regards Indo-Bangladesh talks on Ganges waters, the Nepalese Ambassador said that his government would welcome any settlement on water sharing between India and Bangladesh, however, said that the good neighbourly relation between Nepal and Bangladesh would grow further. He also said Nepal can import bitumen, pharmaceutical goods, electric cables from Bangladesh and a road link between Nepal and Bangladesh would expand trade between the two countries. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 12]

MISAPPROPRIATION OF GRAINS--Chittagong, Mar 12--An inquiry committee has detected misappropriation of a large stock of foodgrains from the government godowns. The committee was set up to probe into reported misappropriation of foodgrains worth Tk 1 crore from Haliashahar central storage. The committee after inspection has already detected misappropriation and sealed 12 out of 98 godowns. The inquiry committee Wednesday found 2,103 maunds of rice and 81,228 maunds of wheat missing from godowns number 50 and 54. The misappropriation was first reported to the Deputy Commissioner by some labourers of the godowns. Following the allegation the inquiry committee was formed with ADC (Admn) as its chief. The inquiry will continue.
[Text] [Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 13 Mar 82 p 1]

CSO: 4220/7034

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED TO NETHERLANDS--Rangoon, 25 March--The President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has appointed U Than Lwin Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Federal Republic of Germany, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Netherlands.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Mar 82 p 1]

AUSTRIA APPOINTS AMBASSADOR--Rangoon, 26 March--The Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma have agreed to the appointment of Mr Rudolf Bogner as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Austria to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. He is presently Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Austria to Thailand, Laos and Singapore. Mr Rudolf Bogner resides in Bangkok from where he is concurrently accredited as Austrian Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 26 Mar 82 p 8]

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED TO INDONESIA--Rangoon, 31 March--The President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has appointed U Than Swe as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Republic of Indonesia.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 31 Mar 82 p 8]

CSO: 4220/477

CPSU GREETES CPI ON EVE OF CPI 12TH CONGRESS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] Moscow, March 21--The Communist Party of Soviet Union has warmly greeted the Communist Party of India on the eve of its twelfth congress and has lauded the party's weighty contribution towards left and democratic unity in the country.

The complex problems facing India can be solved "by joint efforts of the whole people on the basis of unity of left forces and all democratic forces of the country," and the CPI makes a weighty contribution to these efforts, the CPSU message has said.

On the regional situation facing India, the message clearly amplifies CPSU's uneasiness. Some states "neighbouring India" have been drawn into dangerous policy of heightening international tension and were "trying to interfere in the internal affairs" of the country.

"External forces hostile to the Indian people are trying to undermine India's high prestige in the world arena" the message says.

Soviet Union, the CPSU has declared "welcomes the increasing role of India, a great Asian power, in the world affairs."

The CPSU has sharply criticised imperialist circles led by the US for aggravating international tensions, making fierce attacks on socialism, imposing on the world an unprecedented arms race achieving military supremacy bringing the world back to the times of imperialist domination and barring the road to liberation movements and progressive transformation in the world.

To achieve these aims, the imperialism circles were "pushing the world to the brink of nuclear conflict" and Asia and Indian Ocean area were among the objects of their intrigues. the message says.

The message has also warmly praised the role CPI plays in developing and strengthening Indo-Soviet friendship which, it says, has taken deep roots in both countries and "is an important factor of peace in Asia and all over the world."

CSO: 4220/7027

HOME MINISTRY REPORTS DECLINE IN COMMUNAL INCIDENTS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] The number of communal incidents and the consequent casualties considerably declined in 1981 compared to the previous year, according to the annual report of the Home Ministry for 1981-82, reports PTI.

The report also noted a decline of 27 percent in the incidents of students' unrest in the year under review compared to the preceding year.

The Government is also taking follow-up action on the recommendations of the Committee on Communal Harmony relating to the enlargement of the scope of the committee to cover caste conflicts, setting up of national integration committees at the State and district levels and evolving of a code of conduct for the political parties, the report said.

State Governments and Central Ministries have also been asked to evaluate their activities for promotion of national integration.

Giving details of Government efforts to find a negotiated settlement on the foreign national issue, the report noted a spurt in violent activities in Assam. More than 220 persons, it said, had died due to mob violence and bomb explosions.

The prolonged agitation in the State it said, had caused incalculable harm to the economy of the country in general and the northeastern in particular. Revenue to the exchequer had been substantially reduced and increased amounts of money had to be spent on maintenance of law and order.

For the development of the northeastern region, the report said the annual plan outlay had been raised.

Road schemes totalling 1877 kms had also been identified for the sixth five year Plan.

The report also gave in detail the schemes taken up by the Government for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

To upgrade the police administration, the report said Rs 50 crores had been sanctioned during the year. The central financial assistance had also been extended for another period of ten years for modernisation of police forces.

It revealed that 3,85,388 freedom fighters who had applied for pension, 1,20,913 were sanctioned it. A total of 1,12,653 applications had been rejected and the remaining applications were awaiting final decision.

CSO: 4220/7027

ACHIEVEMENTS IN AERONAUTICAL DEVELOPMENT TOLD

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Mar 82 p 4

[Text] Bangalore, March 21--The future aerial warfare may not need the finest precision of a fighter pilot for every mission. A pilotless target aircraft being developed here might be a precursor of future manned aircraft of the genre which could perform offensive mission if necessary.

The Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of the defence organisation which has undertaken the development of a high priority Inter-services Pilotless Target Aircraft (PTA) expected to complete the project by 1985. The first aircraft is scheduled to be launched by 1983-84.

ADE Director Air Vice-Marshal H.N. Krishnamurthy recently told a group of newsmen from Delhi that PTA which was being increasingly used in the western countries besides defence requirement could also cater to several civilian uses. This project would be a forerunner for the development of a more advanced type of vehicle for operational use, he said.

The establishment formed about 22 years ago has undertaken several other projects, especially in research and development related to military aviation. Of late, its thrust has been mainly in the development and designing of targets, remotely piloted vehicles and aircraft system, flight simulation and simulation technique, air weapons, flight research and development.

The successful handling of several intricate projects by the establishment is depicted by the swelling of its annual budget by 50-fold during the last two decades.

With the rapid strides in electronics, Air Vice-Marshal Krishnamurthy said that unmanned flight vehicles were being used in various operational roles such as reconnaissance, electronics intelligence gatherings, defence suppression target identification and target destination.

The ADE has also been entrusted with the design of a high-speed air launched target system which is said to be in an advanced stage of development. This would be the first aerodynamically-controlled unmanned vehicle indigenously developed in the country and would include a number of on-board systems. To meet the overwhelming demand of rocket pods by the Air Force, the ADE has also designed and developed a reusable rocket pods for medium calibre rockets.

Of the other projects currently under progress at the establishment are the display system which utilises various air data, navigational and ballistic parameters to compute and display to the pilot the optimal instant of weapon release. The system helps the pilot in a more efficient weapon aiming and navigation through symbols which are projected and avionics.

Close to it is the development of flight simulation and flight simulator techniques. These would be extensively utilised to the handling characteristics of aircraft and would aid in the development of flight control system and avionics.

Air Vice-Marshal Krishnamurthy said that the establishment which has a strength of 1,200 scientific officers, staff and workmen has successfully completed over 12 projects up till now. Some of the equipment developed and under production included ground starting aggregate for aircraft, audio-control system, fire warning system, gear-box controller, honeycomb panels for aircraft and other. The establishment won the Import Substitution Award (Bronze) in 1975 for one of the equipment developed by it.

The establishment has an extensive computer facility to support its scientific tasks and in addition it also has a well-equipped environmental test facility.

CSO: 4220/7027

PLANS FOR DELEGATION TO NORTH YEMEN TOLD

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] India and North Yemen will begin a high-level exchange of views on their bilateral economic and technical cooperation when the Secretary in External Affairs Ministry Romesh Bhandari goes there on 22 March at the head of a six-member inter-ministerial delegation, reports UNI.

During the four-day visit, Mr Bhandari will meet top North Yemeni leaders and identify areas in which India could provide assistance to that country.

This is the first visit at such a senior level from India to North Yemen.

Mr Bhandari will be accompanied by Mr N Prakash, director of the West Asia and North Africa division in the External Affairs Ministry and a representative each of the ministries of industry, education, health and department of personnel.

North Yemen government has sought India's technical expertise in various fields of economic activity.

North Yemen's Minister for Communications and Transport Ahmed Al Anesi had visited India in January this year and had expressed the view that Third World countries could greatly benefit from Indian expertise in the fields of agriculture, energy, city planning and computer software.

The Government of Yemen feels that Indian experts were generally able to appreciate better than the personnel of western countries the problems faced by the developing countries.

North has expressed interest in Indian assistance in the development of telecommunications in the computer field.

CSO: 4220/7027

EXPULSION OF SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE SERGEI EGOROV

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 20 Feb 82 pp 12-17

[Text] A Soviet military attache is expelled, an Aeroflot employee is arrested—and then goes on a hunger strike. What were they really looking for?

There were no pistols waved. There was no resistance. The story of the arrest of Lt Col Sergei Egorov, assistant military attache at the Soviet Embassy in Jakarta, on 4 February 1982, unfolded quietly.

That evening a Honda Civic automobile slipped into Jalan Pemuda, coming from the West. Right across the street from the Jawa Tengah restaurant, whose parking lot was still rather empty, the driver of the car, Egorov, parked at the side of the street.

He was tall and wore a long-sleeved, light blue shirt and cream-colored trousers. He crossed Jalan Pemuda and entered the restaurant. After looking around he chose table 27, under a parasol, all the way over on the eastern side. The table was one of seven with parasols, set out in the garden of the restaurant.

As soon as the waiter approached him, Egorov, setting down a small leather case he was carrying, ordered a small bottle of beer. He didn't seem to know that a number of the other guests who were eating in the glass-enclosed A C Room in the middle of the restaurant were continuously watching his movements.

The beer in Egorov's glass was gone when, at about 8:00 pm, a well-built man with a smooth, dark complexion, got out of a yellow taxi in front of the restaurant. He went directly in and took the place at the table across from Egorov. They engaged in what appeared to be a serious conversation. Once did the two of them smile. "They were speaking English," a waiter said later.

When the waiter approached with the menus, the man who later was identified as Lt Col Soesdarjanto asked Egorov, "Do you want to order something else?" After Egorov replied, Soesdarjanto called the waiter and said, "Please bring 20 sticks of charcoal-broiled chicken, rice cooked in a banana leaf, a plate of rice, a glass of orange juice, and another small bottle of beer." While they were eating, they continued their conversation.

It was about 2030. Two small bottles of beer were empty. So was Soesdarjanto's glass of orange juice. Egorov was finishing his last stick of barbecued chicken. The rice ordered for him hadn't been touched. They called the waiter and were presented with a bill for Rp 5,650. Egorov paid it.

Soesdarjanto then left Egorov—without even saying goodbye. The Soviet diplomat, on the other hand, remained seated while he finished his cigarette. Only then did Egorov stand up. However, when he reached down to pick up the small leather case on the table, three apple green jeeps arrived at the restaurant. One went into the parking lot. One stopped in front of the entrance. The other one stopped in front of the back door—right behind where Egorov had been sitting.

It was then that several well-built men dressed in civilian clothes surrounded him. The guests who had been eating while they watched him from the A C Room also began to move. They gathered around Egorov. After saying what was necessary and without waving any pistols, they led Egorov to the jeep which was in the parking lot. The arrest took less than 2 minutes.

After the two jeeps (including the one with Egorov in it) had left, a number of men—who turned out to be intelligence officers from the Jakarta Special Branch—remained to examine the table and the area around it. There were still two sticks of barbecued chicken left. A plate of rice had been left. It seemed that Egorov had left nothing suspicious behind him in the restaurant. Everything was cleaned up. Indeed, the other guests who were eating in the central part of the restaurant did not know that a diplomat had been arrested and charged with purchasing secret military documents at table number 27.

That same Thursday evening [4 February] Egorov was interrogated by the Capital Garrison Command. "The officials interrogated him until morning," said a TEMPO source at garrison headquarters. Of course, the intensive questioning was broken several times by rest periods. During the questioning Egorov was offered food and something to drink. The Russian declined. He only smoked the cigarettes which he had brought himself. Did he confess? It is not known for sure. However, he said a great deal during the interrogation. It is said that Egorov had purchased secret state documents involving national security from a middle-ranking officer named Soesdarjanto. When he was arrested, he was carrying film and a camera which Soesdarjanto had previously used to photograph a number of secret documents. On the film was found a naval chart of Indonesia—indicating strategic routes from the Natuna Islands to Eastern Indonesia, with details on the seas between. However, the assistant military attache at the Soviet Embassy also said that he had met Soesdarjanto for the first time that night. According to Maj Gen Norman Sasono, chief of the Special Branch and commander of the Defense and Security Command for Jakarta, in his statement on 9 February, a prior meeting with Soesdarjanto was arranged by Alexandre Finenko. He was general manager of the Soviet airline Aeroflot in Jakarta. The equipment which he gave to Soesdarjanto, according to a TEMPO source, was really very simple: an ordinary camera equipped with an electronic device. With the device the user could take pictures in [word missing in text]. "The size of the device was the same as that of an ordinary camera," the source said.

The radio sender and receiver which was confiscated was also not unusual. It was the size of a radio, about 10 x [dimension missing]. The radio used the [radio frequency missing] wave length. Its purpose was for contact between Soesdarjanto and his "controller" [pemberi tugas]. It is believed that the Russian diplomat deliberately gave Soesdarjanto simple equipment so that he would not need special training to use it. The most logical deduction is that the Soviets wanted Indonesian naval charts. Soesdarjanto worked in the Hydrographic and Topographic Office of Navy Headquarters. The middle-ranking Navy officer had been approached and used for 5 years. "As a super power, the Soviet Union, which has a high seas fleet, really needed the chart," said a high-ranking defense and security officer to TEMPO.

It is not known whether Egorov was ready to admit anything further about the matter. What is certain is that after his interrogation was over and it was known that he had diplomatic status, Egorov was released Friday morning [5 February]. Meanwhile, the results of the interrogation were also sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On 5 February Egorov, accompanied by two members of the staff of the Soviet Union—one wearing a yellow batik shirt and the other wearing a gray safari suit—were called in by Director General of Protocol Joop Ave. The substance of the meeting was that Egorov was informed that he must immediately leave Indonesia.

On the same day Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja also called in Soviet Ambassador Ivan F Shpedko. The Indonesian government expressed its protest and declared Egorov persona non grata. Mochtar also requested that the diplomat involved in the espionage activity leave Indonesia within 48 hours. However, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs "promised" not to make the incident public in the interests of good relations between the two countries.

Both sides kept to the arrangements. The Soviet Embassy arranged for the departure of Egorov on 6 February on Garuda flight GA 968 at 1800. However, on the same flight was Alexandre Finenko, who had been identified by security officers as involved in Egorov's activities. He calmly carried two small portfolios and gave Rp 500 to the porter who helped him carry his suitcases to the passenger counter. He and his wife were accompanied by four members of the staff of the Soviet Embassy.

After Finenko handed over his passport with its exit permit, the immigration official seated in his booth looked at it closely. The official compared the name with the "black list" which was on file behind his desk. Because he was convinced that Finenko was being sought by security officers, Finenko was asked to "wait" in the immigration section. His intention was that taking care of the matter would be handled in a place not in public view.

But what happened? The Aeroflot manager in Jakarta refused. He grew increasingly angry when an immigration official who was on guard outside the booth berated him and took him by the hand. Finenko pushed the official, and immediately the four men accompanying him joined in "freeing" him. A fight broke out. Several immigration officers were injured. A glass window nearby was broken. One of Finenko's stocky escorts had his forehead scratched. The situation was getting tense. The Garuda flight for that evening was delayed for a while.

The fight ended after security officers from the police and the Armed Forces Police came. Finenko was handcuffed. He was taken to a closed room on the edge of Halim Perdanakusumah air base. There a Special Branch officer and an officer from the prosecutor's office were waiting for him. Finenko's escort, G M Odariouk, persisted in accompanying Finenko.

As a continuation of the interrogation in the closed room at Halim Perdanakusumah air base, Finenko and Odariouk were taken to the Capital Garrison Command. The fight had disturbed the plans of the Indonesian government to deal with the case of the Soviet diplomat in secret. "It appeared to be clear, after the fight occurred, that the efforts of the security officer, after Finenko had been arrested, to ensure that the affair would be handled without becoming a matter of public knowledge, had failed because of the aggressive attitude of officials of the Soviet Embassy," commented a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs two days later.

The report of the arrests of Finenko and Odariouk was soon known to an officer of the Soviet Embassy. That evening [6 February] at 2100 several officers of the Soviet Embassy contacted the director general of protocol and consular affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Joop Ave. They made a strong protest over the incident at Halim Perdanakusumah air base and demanded that Finenko (who was not a diplomat) and Okariouk, a diplomat with attache rank, be released.

At about 0230 on Friday [sic: as printed; probably should read Sunday, 7 February, following the delayed departure of the Garuda aircraft on the evening of 6 February] Ambassador Ivan F shpedko brought a group of 10 persons in three automobiles to the Capital Garrison Command. The ambassador and his staff first had a sharp argument with a security officer when they asked that their two fellow-citizens be released. Because the argument went nowhere, Ambassador Shpedko directly telephoned Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja. He conveyed his protest and asked that the two people be released. The minister of foreign affairs did not object to the release of Odariouk, who had diplomatic status.

The protests did not stop with the release of Odariouk. On Sunday morning, 7 February, Soviet Embassy officers met Joop Ave again. They demanded that Finenko, who suffered from asthma, be released. Indeed, Finenko threatened to go on a hunger strike. However, the Indonesian government quickly provided its answer. Based on an examination by a doctor, it appeared that Finenko did not suffer from asthma.

A series of protests over the arrest of Findnko, who was charged with involvement in espionage activity, was made by the Soviet Embassy in Jakarta. On the evening of 8 February Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar called in Ambassador Shpedko, who was accompanied by his deputy, Khmelnitski, and a staff officer. In their nearly 2 hour meeting in his office Mochtar, accompanied by his senior officers, expressed his protest in return. "Indonesia strongly protests the behavior of diplomatic officers of the Soviet Embassy in Jakarta. Indonesia is also disappointed because these diplomatic officers did not act to promote good relations with the host country and respect the laws in effect here," commented a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after the meeting.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which originally intended to delay the issuance of a statement of persons non grata against Egorov, was forced to do so hurriedly because of the harsh attitude displayed by the Soviet diplomats. Furthermore, that evening reporters came to the ministry and demanded information on the "expulsion" of the Soviet diplomat. "In fact we are not yet ready to make a statement," said a high-ranking official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It seemed the government wanted to move carefully, fearing the possibility of reprisals taken against Indonesian diplomats in Moscow.

On Wednesday morning [14 February] about 160 youths from the Indonesian National Youth Committee (KNPI) came to the Soviet Embassy on Jalan M H Thamrin. They carried posters saying: "Break diplomatic relations with Russia"; "Close the Aeroflot office"; "The Russian Embassy is a nest of spies" and other things. They protested against the espionage activity of Egorov and Finenko.

However, the Soviet Embassy continued to tighten up the functioning of its door, which opened and closed automatically. After the shouting had gone on for some time, finally the deputy chief of mission, A I Khmelnitski, allowed five members of the KNPI, led by General Chairman Aulia Rachman and Secretary General Theo Sambuaga to enter. For the first time the Soviet Embassy opened its mouth regarding this case.

To the KNPI delegation Khmelnitski did not confirm that Egorov and Finenko had acted as spies. Indeed, he stated that reports on this matter were not fair at all. And he added that the Soviet government had no desire whatsoever to lessen existing good relations between the two countries.

Because they were not satisfied, the KNPI "controlled demonstration" continued. A number of the demonstrators, under the leadership of Secretary General Theo Sambuaga, went to the Aeroflot office at the Hotel Sahid Jaya. Then only encountered a locked glass door. They had no alternative to putting up protest posters which demanded that the airline office be closed.

The demonstrators, who were directly observed by Special Branch chief Norman Sasono, also went to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They were met by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar himself. Not many statements were made there, apart from an expression of support for the actions of the government in expelling Egorov and arresting Finenko. However, they also expressed their dissatisfaction that only five people were permitted to enter the garden of the Soviet Embassy.

The protest action also took place before the Soviet Consulate on Jalan Karim M S in Medan on 10 February. Some 26 people took part, including members of the KNPI led by the local chairman, Bomer Pasaribu. The contents of their protest were also the same, protesting against the actions of the spy Egorov, the fight between the Soviet diplomats and Indonesian security officers at Halim Perdanakusumah air base, and unfriendly broadcasts over Radio Moscow. Consul Valentine F Popov was only prepared to receive three demonstrators.

A more serious demonstration broke out 2 days later. About 2,000 young people belonging to the North Sumatra Pancasila Youth Group met in front of their headquarters. The plan was for them to attack and occupy the Soviet Consulate. However, security officers moved more quickly. To give vent to their anger, they only burned a portrait of Leonid Brezhnev.

Similar reactions also emerged among the members of Parliament. They raised the question of the excessive size of the Soviet mission and staff in Indonesia. Apart from the Embassy in Jakarta, the Soviet Union also has consulates in Medan, Surabaya, and Banjarmasin—which Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar himself had already asked to be closed and sold, because "they were no longer relevant."

More difficult was raising a question on the number of Soviet personnel. Rusli Desa, a representative of the Functional Development Faction [FKP], for example, questioned the total number of personnel assigned to the Soviet Embassy, which he considered too large. "They have five times as many diplomats as we have," he said.

Indeed, according to a TAMPO source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the total number of diplomats and staff of the Soviet Embassy (all Soviet personnel) is 80. This total is larger than the personnel at the Soviet Embassy in the United States. The diplomats and staff at the Soviet Embassy there only total 24.

Apparently, Indonesia continues to wish to avoid having this espionage case go so far as to damage seriously the relations between the two countries. In this sense, it certainly would be rather difficult to maintain diplomatic politeness on the one hand and take action against a foreign diplomat on the other.

For example, this question comes up with the Finenko case. Some observers have asked why Finenko, who was already being sought by security officers, was able to obtain an exit permit to leave Indonesia together with his family. "The question of issuing an exit permit is my responsibility," said Joon Ave, tapping his chest. "The exit permit was issued before this case came up," he added. Meanwhile, security officials had only reported the involvement of Finenko with the espionage activity after the exit permit had been issued. It was only the "black list" which finally intercepted Finenko in the immigration office at Halim Perdanakusumah air base.

The period of Finenko's assignment—he came to Indonesia in 1979—was to end on 5 February 1982. According to a senior officer of the Jakarta Special Branch who is handling the affair, the forthcoming end of his period of assignment was connected to the meeting of Soesdarjanto with Egorov on the night in question [4 February]. Up to then it was Finenko, who is reportedly a member of the military intelligence organization (GRU), a heavyweight, who had the task of developing and contacting Soesdarjanto. "Because his tour of duty was ending, he turned over the case to Egorov to continue it," he said.

Based on the investigation which had been going on for almost a week, the security people were convinced that Finenko was involved in espionage. Norman Sasno himself declared that Finenko and Soesdarjanto would be brought before the Subversion Court. However, this did not happen. On Monday of this week [15 February] the commander of the Defense and Security Command, Admiral Sudomo, made a statement that Finenko had been released and sent home quietly on 13 February.

The release and expulsion of Finenko, according to Sudomo, was not because of pressure or threats from the Soviet Union. This was exclusively because the health of Finenko—who suddenly went on a hunger strike—continued to worsen. "Although this is the case, Indonesia still will take diplomatic action," he said. The action involved closing the Aeroflot office in Jakarta, effective 15 February 1982. On the last aircraft which left on Saturday [13 February] Finenko and his family left Indonesia. Together with the chief of the Aeroflot office, whose name was not listed on the passenger manifest, G Odariouk, a diplomat who prevented security officers from arresting Finenko on 6 February, also returned to the Soviet Union.

The departure of Odariouk, who had served in Indonesia since 1977, invited the spread of sensational reports. The Western press reported that Odariouk went home because he had been expelled. "The Indonesian government has not asked for any action to be taken against him at all at the Soviet Embassy here," said Joop Ave. To declare an official persona non grata, there must be a strong reason. Meanwhile, the involvement of Odariouk in the incident that took place on 6 February did not at all meet the conditions for expulsion. "Perhaps it was his superior who took the initiative," Joop said.

Now there remains the case of Soesdarjanto. A number of security officers said that he was arrested on the evening of 4 February with Egorov at the Jawa Tengah restaurant, although according to a TEMPO source close to him, Soesdarjanto was picked up by several security officers when he was going to work at the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Office on the morning of 4 February.

However, on Thursday evening [4 February] several security officers in fact came to his house in the Navy officers' housing complex in Cilincing and searched through the contents of his home. A Grundig radio was taken away with them. It is reported that the radio was given to him by a person from the Soviet Shipping Office here before he went back to the Soviet Union 3 years ago.

The wife and three daughters of Soesdarjanto only learned themselves that the head of the family had been arrested, on 8 February. A number of security officers, according to his wife, asked that she send him some clothing. More convincing is the statement by Norman Sasno who said that Finenko and Soesdarjanto would be brought before the Subversion Court on 9 February.

Soesdarjanto has clearly been charged with passing secret documents which endanger national security. A few of his acquaintances have expressed astonishment and did not believe that this man could really be accused of this. (See following article)

Soesdarjanto Had a Light Step

"Usually, he attended mass on Saturday evenings," said Fr Wartadi, C M [Congregation of Mary], from the Catholic church at Jalan Tugu 8 in Tanjung Priok. The priest, who is originally from Klaten [Central Java], was of course speaking of Navy Lt Col J B Soesdarjanto. "The last time I saw him was 2 weeks ago," the priest continued, in a conversation with TEMPO last week.

For Catholics in the sub-district of Kramat Tunggak, North Jakarta, "Pak Soes" [nickname of Soesdarjanto] was no stranger. He was regarded as a person who had a light step and was capable and helpful. Indeed, he was trusted as the chairman of the Church Development Committee. Sister Prisca also said that Soes frequently attended morning mass at "Marsudirini" convent, a kindergarten for pre-school children. "In our view he had no faults at all," said Sister Prisca.

When TV carried the important statement of the commander of Military Region V/Jakarta, Maj Gen Norman Sasono, on Tuesday evening [9 February], "I was really startled," said Father Wartadi. The telephone at the rectory later on rang often with people asking about the matter. When Sister Prisca mentioned the matter directly to Mrs Soesdarjanto, "Mother Soes"—as she is called—calmly answered, "that's right, Sister, that is the father of my children."

The Grundig Radio

Mother Soes is the mother of three daughters and the grandmother of a boy. She seems resolute. "I want to be a witness for my husband," she said. "Until the end of my life I want to be a witness to state that he is not a traitor to our country."

Johannes Batista Soesdarjanto was the youngest of six brothers. He was born in Ambarawa [Central Java] and had graduated from Loyola senior high school in Semarang. Soes later entered the AIP (Maritime Science Academy) and graduated in 1958. In 1962 he entered the Navy. In 1963 he was sent to school in Maryland, in the United States, for one and one-half years—for a special cartography course.

"He is one of the hydrographic experts who has had specialized training," said a friend of his, "and officers as senior as he is are rare in the Hydrographic Office." Soes' career progressed steadily. From chief of the Mapping Office Soes was then promoted to be Operations Officer. Finally, he became Production Officer [Perwira Pembinaan].

At his present age of 47 he was scheduled to be promoted next April to be a colonel in the Navy. "However, all of this is over," said his wife, "and I have asked that my name be taken off the list of the Wives' Association [Dharma Pertiwi] after my husband was mentioned on TV and written about in the newspapers."

Mrs Soesdarjanto herself is quite active. She took part in the 14th class of the Pancasila Indoctrination Course, has been active in church groups, and still finds time to take orders for food and pastry. "If I had a lot of orders, Soes was not above helping me in the kitchen," she said.

Soesdarjanto's friends also say that Soes is indeed "a type who opens the door of this car for his wife." He liked being at home. He took care of the small garden at his house and raised a number of birds in his bird cage. His home at Jalan Menteng 8A, in the Cakarawala Navy officers' complex in Tanjung Priok, is a modest one.

His wife openly says that her husband knew a number of foreigners. At his office on Jalan Gunung Sahari there is an office for visitors from friendly countries. In 1976 Soes met a Russian who reportedly had the post of chief of the Shipping Mission [Perwakilan Perkapalan]. His wife said, "I forget his name, but when he was about to return home, he gave us a Grundig radio. On a number of occasions he introduced us to another Russian named Robert."

From that time on, Robert often telephoned to invite them for a drink at the Lembur Kuring restaurant, the Jawa Rimur restaurant, or the Jawa Tengah restaurant. The invitation was accepted "if my husband had time," Mrs Soes adds, "and I always was invited. Robert drank beer, and we only wanted orange juice." Robert himself never came to the house. Soes and his wife also did not invite Robert to their home.

It was only after Thursday, 11 February, that a security officer met Mrs Soesdarjanto, at 11:00am. It was only then that she learned who "Robert" was. "After I saw him, I immediately said to him, 'Good morning, Mr Robert,'" Mrs Soes recalled. "However, Robert, who seemed surprised to see me, immediately replied, 'My name is Finenko.'"

Finenko continued to say that he did not know Mrs Soesdarjanto. He went on a 5 day hunger strike, and he perspired freely.

Mrs Soesdarjanto is convinced that this Russian is an ordinary friend of her husband's. However, for members of the Indonesian Armed Forces there is a regulation of the Ministry of Defense and Security which provides that each time they have any contact with a foreigner they are required to obtain permission and required to report to their superiors. It is not clear whether Soesdarjanto obeyed this regulation.

There Are 200 Soviets in the Cracks

There are more Soviets in Jakarta than in their mission in Washington. Among them there may be members of Directorate No 7.

The list of undesirable foreigners is increasing in Indonesia. At the immigration office at Halim Perdanakusumah air base, on 6 February the picture was circulated and the order of arrest was issued for the general manager of Aeroflot, Alexandre Finenko. After the Soviet espionage activity was revealed, it was believed that he would leave Indonesia on the first occasion--that evening. Finenko was accused of being involved in it.

This belief was not mistaken. Finenko appeared at Halim Perdanakusumah with a Garuda airlines ticket in his hand at about 1700. Destination, Singapore. On that day also departed the assistant military attache at the Soviet Embassy, Lt Col S P Egorov, who had been declared persona non grata by the Indonesian government on a similar charge, one day earlier.

At the Garuda check-in counter Finenko, who was carrying an ordinary passport, encountered no difficulty at all. The problem only came up when his identity document was turned over to the immigration officer. Finenko was informed that he was not allowed to leave Indonesia without the permission of the government. He rejected that order. He was accompanied by four of his friends, one of whom even struck a security officer.

The fight began. In the narrow passageway of the immigration office you can't get away. On the Soviet side the diplomat Gregor Odariouk was injured. His forehead was scratched when he was struck. On the Indonesian side an official whose name has not been given hurt his hand. There was other excitement: a window in the immigration office was broken. However, Finenko was successfully arrested.

Finenko, according to Admiral Sudomo, did not need to be held very long. During the process of his detention and interrogation information was obtained on the espionage activity in which he was involved. He was released for humanitarian reasons.

Not much is known about Finenko's background. According to a local staff employee of Aeroflot, Djoko Soeharto, Finenko arrived in Jakarta in 1979. His office was in the Hotel Sahid Jaya. His position as general manager ended on 5 February. However, the turnover of his office to his replacement, Yuri Grogoski, took place several hours before his abortive attempt to leave for Moscow. Outside his surface position, Finenko's daily life was rather mysterious.

There are those who think that Finenko is a member of the Glavnoye Razvedyvatelnoye Upravleniye (GRU)—the army intelligence service. The reason for this is that he was on very close terms with Egorov. It was Finenko who introduced Egorov to Navy Lt Col Soesdarjanto—an agent who had worked for the Soviet Union since 1976. Soesdarjanto was arrested at the same time when the Soviet espionage affair was exposed 2 weeks ago.

However, another source states that Finenko is an agent of the Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti (KGB)—the Soviet secret service, which employs 100,000 agents. The reason: Aeroflot, the Soviet airline company, is a cover for agents which the KGB likes to use. On the other hand most of the GRU agents work under Soviet Embassy cover.

If it is true that Finenko was a KGB agent, he appears to be a member of Directorate No 7—the secret service which covers the continent of Asia from Pakistan to Japan.

Finenko may wear a GRU or KGB uniform. What is certain is that Indonesia, as reported in the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW in December, 1976, is a Soviet objective. Beside that the Soviet Union has an interest in balancing the influence of the People's Republic of China. In the period before the Gestapu/PKI affair [the abortive Indonesian Communist uprising of 1965] Indonesia was really inclined toward China.

To develop their influence in Indonesia, no less than 80 diplomats have been assigned by the Soviet Union to this country, stationed in four cities: Jakarta, Medan, Surabaya, and Banjarmasin. This total, according to a TEMPO source, is greater than the number assigned to the United States. This figures shows how important Indonesia is for the Soviet Union.

Beside the 80 people who have diplomatic passports there are others who work as journalists, Aeroflot representatives, trade office representatives, or in other capacities. It is estimated that there are more than 200 Soviet citizens living in Indonesia. The number carrying GRU or KGB cards is not known for certain. According to a TEMPO source, it is at least 40 percent.

In Jakarta there are 40 diplomats from the Soviet Union in the diplomatic list published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. More than half of them live in the housing complex on Jalan Daksa V in Kebayoran Baru. It is not known where Finenko lived. As far as Egorov is concerned, he served in Indonesia, beginning in 1980, and lived on Jalan Daksa IV, number 91.

The Soviet diplomatic compound does not appear to be particularly luxurious. There are only three, two-storied residences, all facing the street. Almost all of the flats have window air conditioning units. In the middle of the complex are a tennis court, a swimming pool, a school, and a garden. The complex covers about two hectares.

The complex on Jalan Daksa has a barbed wire fence and has only one entrance, giving the appearance that it is haunted. The residents are never in contact with their neighbors. Even their children are not permitted to play in the street. Across the street from the Soviet compound is the home of the former United Nations troop commander, Maj Gen Gais Abin—currently Indonesian ambassador to Malaysia. "We are not concerned about them," says Dr Satyawada, another neighbor.

Concerning Indonesian guests who visit the complex at Jalan Daksa V, these are rare, according to residents of the complex. This indeed can be seen from the guest register at the guard post at the entrance.

In the complex six Indonesians work—they are domestic servants and gardeners. "We communicate in the language of Tarzan," says one of them. He meant they use sign language. In general, those who live there are not fluent in Indonesian.

In general espionage activity is not handled in the Soviet residence complex, but rather from places under cover—such as trade offices. One sign of the KGB is that the agents chosen by them must be fluent in the local language. Finenko spoke Indonesian very well. So did Egorov.

Regarding the man who recruited Soesdarjanto in 1976 and who was later replaced by Finenko, nothing is known. Nothing is known either about the way he went about it. It is believed that it was no different from the way the KGB recruited James Pringle, a Reuters correspondent, in Beijing in 1972. The main recruiter of Pringle was the general manager of Aeroflot, Alexandr Vasilenko.

One day in November, 1972, Pringle came to the Aeroflot office to ask for a special rate for a flight from Beijing to London. Vasilenko did not object. Although Aeroflot had repeatedly flown to and from Beijing, a ticket for Pringle had not yet been issued. He was just called on by Vasilenko, in the middle of December, not to the Aeroflot office but rather to the Soviet Embassy. However, there was a catch: when he arrived at the Soviet Embassy, he was taken to a room which, according to Pringle, was equipped with a recording device, and there the bargaining began. "We can help you, provided that we exchange information," said Vasilenko. Pringle refused and left.

Soesdarjanto, according to a report, also received special treatment from a Soviet citizen. In 1979 he received a radio, which, it is believed, could be turned into a transmitter, from the Soviet shipping office in Jakarta. As far as Finenko is concerned, it is reported that he once offered Soesdarjanto a stereo set. The offer was turned down—Soesdarjanto already had the same kind of set. What his response was to a different offer is not reported.

What did the Soviets hope to get from Soesdarjanto? It seems that there were no documents for which they might reasonably have paid a great deal—apart from information concerning the waters of Indonesia. Judging by experience in Asia, the Soviet Union does not seek advanced technology from Asian countries—except for Japan. However, by means of subversion the Soviets may make the country involved weak in its foundations.

5170

CSO: 4213/501

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

AMBASSADOR SUDARSONO--The Indonesian ambassador in Hanoi, Vietnam, Sudarsono (54 years of age), on Saturday afternoon [13 March] died in Singapore from the consequences of an illness which he suffered from. The remains of the deceased will arrive at Halim Perdanakusumah Air Base this morning [14 March] at 9:00 am on a Garuda Indonesian Airways aircraft. The deceased will be buried at Kalibata Heroes' Cemetery this afternoon. He leaves a wife and five children. According to Joop Ave, director general for tourism, the deceased had suffered from his illness for a rather long time. About once a month he was treated at a hospital in Singapore. Ambassador Sudarsono was once operated on for this illness in Bangkok. He was born in Surakarta on 9 May 1928. He had a varied career, in the Navy and in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was an instructor in navigation and was a member of the Mutual Assistance Parliament from 1964 to 1968, also serving as an instructor at the Navy Staff and Command School. He was military attache in New Delhi (1971-1974), director for Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1977-1980) and finally was Indonesian ambassador to Vietnam, from 1980 until his death. Ambassador Sudarsono attended technical high school in Yogyakarta; the Koninklijk Instituut voor de Marine in Den Helder, the Netherlands; the Royal Air Force Flying School in Swindon, England; and Navy Staff and Command School in Jakarta; and intelligence training in Bandung. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 14 Mar 82 pp 1, 11] 5170

MOCHTAR LUBIS--Today [7 March] Mochtar Lubis is 60 years old. He is still a free spirit with a laughing manner, still studies Kung Fu, still likes flowers, and still says sorry to his wife. And, of course, he is still busy. "Half of my activity is outside the country," he said in his room at the Raffles Hotel, a restored old hotel in Singapore. Mochtar was in Singapore for a meeting with the editors of WORLD PAPER. A week before that he was in Korea and Japan for more or less the same kind of meeting. It seems that he is still trying to hold fast to his principle of working hard. Within his limits, he works hard. "He fills up the time earmarked for him. If necessary, he spends more time, depending on other commitments." Really, the basic question is what makes Mochtar move now? What makes him work so hard? The

answer is, Indonesian questions, that is, questions involving the people of Indonesia and questions of community structure. "Human questions are more important than questions of natural resources. This is evident from the small countries like Singapore, Japan, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, which make progress. They are more creative. They have work discipline and strong social discipline. They are not easily tempted by women, power, and possessions. The question of the two structures in our society is still the structure of society in the colonial period. And after independence we did not change this structure but even strengthened it. There is the feudal structure. Such an attitude is not only to be found among those who hold power but also among their subordinates. Or the groups which are also creative. The subordinates do not dare to contradict their superiors. Thus, the senior figures then feel that things must always be like that." He was asked whether, if we do not change this attitude in an effort to create democracy, to apply the Pancasila, will we fail? What is the way to change things? He answered, "We don't want Indonesia to explode. There must be no more people killed in struggles between our people. The way to bring in change is for the government, which holds power, to begin to provide the example. If they do this, society as a whole will follow the example. I am a child of feudal society. My father was a district chief in West Java. He had been an overseer on an agricultural estate belonging to the Dutch. If a contract coolie ran off, it was for my father to punish him. Since then my father always said that he did not want his children to be state employees. I myself wanted to become a doctor but was prohibited from doing so. For being a doctor meant later being a state employee. My father was part of the feudal system but did not like feudal attitudes. When I was a child, if I wanted to do so, I could take chocolates or food at the hotel cafe, without paying; I could see the movies without paying, because I was the son of the district chief. But my father became angry if I did this. And I was subject to tough discipline. I have only learned the usefulness of this now." Asked about his mother, he said, "From my mother I learned about the truth. I still remember it. Mother always said, 'Don't tell lies or you'll go to hell.'" Asked about whom he owed thanks for his present standing, he replied, "Father and Mother. And my wife--who never says 'no' to anything I do, even at the risk of going to jail." Mochtar Lubis was in jail on two occasions. Once under the government of the Old Order and once under the government of the New Order. The sixth child of 10 brothers, this son of the Radja of Pandapotan graduated from the HIS [Dutch grammar school for Indonesians] in the city of his birth, Sungai Penuh, West Sumatra. Later he continued his studies at the Sekolah Kayu Tanam [Forestry School], majoring in economics. He retains his impressions of that school. "There, although it was a school of economics, Dutch and English were also taught, and so was chess. Formerly, there was a week's class in the jungle, getting to know nature. That was when I began to love plants. Oh, yes, there I was taught about orchids. Is that curious? Right up to the present I still like orchids." After 4 years of economics school young Mochtar (then 18 years old) went to Jakarta. He once worked in the "Factorij" Bank [Nederlandsch Handel Maatschappij]. During the Japanese occupation of Indonesia he was active in a Japanese military radio detachment. Since then he has been involved in the world of journalism. And, together with Vice President Adam Malik, he became a reporter for Antara News Agency. While active in the world of journalism --and also the world of literature--Mochtar Lubis received many signs of

recognition. In 1958 he won the Ramon Magsaysay prize in the press section. It was only 8 years later [1966] that he was able to accept the prize, because he had been under detention. His book, "Djalan Tak Ada Ujung" [Road Without End], published in 1952, had previously been considered the best work of fiction by the BKPN [national literary body]. His novel, "Harimau-harimau" [Tigers], published in 1977, was also considered the best book published that year, a year in which he received an artistic prize. The same was true of "Cinta dan Maut" [Love and Death], published in 1979. His latest work, "Pena Emas" [Golden Pen], is awaiting the judgement of editors of the world. He was asked which one he liked best. "It was not so much a matter of liking one in particular. I didn't expect to receive prizes from my work. The prizes don't give the right impression--although I appreciate them. Without the prizes I would have continued with my work." He was asked what made him happy. He replied, "If the readers respond to my work. Ah, once the readers of INDONESIA RAYA [of which Mochtar Lubis was editor] collected money and gave me a typewriter. I still remember that very well." So that is Mochtar Lubis, the father of three children and grandfather of three grandchildren (if not yet more), who is still busy with various affairs here and there. He has been a member of literary juries, a participant in discussions and seminars, a member of various forms of artistic activity, a member of foundations, and still finds time for Kung Fu and yoga and continues to write books. On his 60th birthday he says, "I have never celebrated my birthday. Now my children want to celebrate it in Jakarta," he said yesterday [6 March] while he was still in Singapore. Perhaps there have been small changes in him. He is not as fierce and as tough as he was when he fought with Sjubah Asa ("because he insulted women. Aren't there women members of Parliament? Most of all I don't like people who belittle women."). He likes his leisure time. Perhaps the following words can be used in conclusion. "I still practice Kung Fu. However, now I do it alone, without a teacher. That's all right, the practice is not to prepare for an enemy. It is for my health and for my own good." [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 12] 5170

NEW AMBASSADORS CALL ON MINISTER--Four new Indonesian ambassadors on Tuesday [2 March] made a farewell call on the coordinating minister for politics and security, Maraden Panggabean, at the minister's office. The four ambassadors were: Vice Admiral Subroto Yudono (former commander of Defense Area IV), Indonesian ambassador to Nigeria and also accredited to Liberia; Vice Admiral R E Soeprapto (former commander of the Armed Forces Staff and Command School), Indonesian ambassador to the Republic of Korea; Lt Gen (Ret) Achmad Tirtosudiro (former director general of tourism), Indonesian ambassador to Saudi Arabia; Maj Gen (Ret) R S Sasraprawira (former secretary general in the Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives), Indonesian ambassador to India; and Supangat, (former chief of the Bureau of Social and Cultural Affairs in the National Secretariat of AWEAN), Indonesian ambassador to Kenya.

JOOP AVE--Even the mice ran out of their comfortable holes in the wall when Joop Ave was about to leave the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Jalan Pejambon. The problem was that all of the furniture and decorations in the three-room protocol office used by Joop Ave when he was director general of protocol

and consular affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were his private property. The lobby of the Ministry and stairway leading to the three-room protocol office have recently looked like a showroom for his beautiful furnishings. Pictures against the wall of the lobby and along the stairway had periodically been changed, in accordance with the tastes of the man who was the director general of protocol and consular affairs. The lobby and the stairway were once decorated with pictures with the theme of mosques. There were mosques on city squares, mosques set off among trees, mosques that seemed to be peeping out from among the leaves, even including the Istiqlal Mosque. Alongside it was a painting on glass picturing the horse Buraq, which was ridden by the Prophet Muhammad when he made his journey from Haram Mosque in Mecca to El Aqsa Mosque, which is now under Israeli control. There are not many protocol officers who have the honor to receive praise from Queen Elizabeth of England, which was sent from Buckingham Palace via White Hall (Ministry of Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs--Editor) to Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja. "You have sent a first class press officer," was the tenor of the message of congratulations. Indeed, since he was 20 years old, when he was a student at the Foreign Service Academy, he has known what protocol means. No one knows how many hours he spent waiting at Kemayoran airport, when he was there to welcome state guests, chiefs of state, and chiefs of government who came to attend the Asian-African Conference in Bandung in April, 1955. Even at that young age he joined in welcoming leaders like Sir John Kotelawala, prime minister of Sri Lanka at the time; the prime minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru; Prime Minister U Nu of Burma; Chou En-lai, prime minister of the People's Republic of China; or the minister of foreign affairs of Liberia, Momolu Dukuy. No less than 20 of the following years (until 1975)--he is now 45 years old--were devoted to protocol affairs 11 years on a full-time basis and 7 years while performing other duties but still having a connection with protocol. What did he learn from these duties? He answers, "Thousands of times I heard our national anthem, 'Indonesia Raya'; thousands of times I heard conversations which I cannot forget." All of that led him to be called on frequently to represent his country. He says, "I am proud of it, and I never at any time had any feelings of inferiority." Joop Ave, who graduated in social and political affairs from the University of the Philippines, learned protocol affairs on the job. It was from this experience that he has always done something different from the others. For Queen Elizabeth it was a matter of getting together Indonesian women who could carve papaya fruit in the form of a crown to decorate the palace for the visit. Then it was the matter of the peacock, the symbol of the Empire of Iran, which had a dominant place in the decorations of the State Palace for the visit of the Shah Reza Pahlevi and Empress Farah Diba. Joop Ave, who is always happy and who laughs until tears come to his eyes and his body shakes, who is always neatly dressed and has good taste in all things, was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Behind the shining exterior of his life which is on display there are the results of the bitterness of a life of shortages and a struggle to become what he is now. He recalls, "I come from a poor family, where my mother was also father for many years," and he looks off into the distance, as if he is following again his path through life. He was asked how long this had gone on. "For 18 years," he replied. His father died when he was 12 years old. His mother was left with 7 children who needed guidance and care. "That was during wartime [the Indonesian struggle

for independence], and we lived in misery," he continued. At that young age he had to help his mother handle her pension. All of his daily life at that time left its marks on him. "That is why I always think it is wrong to live with a full plate available, when there are people going without. At home there was never a surplus of food." On birthday occasions food in all forms and tastes was served in generous amounts. Where did it come from? All of it was a gift of friends. However, as soon as the celebration was over and only very close friends remained, everything was put away in boxes or receptacles. The remaining food was soon gone. What about the beautiful things he now has? He admits that he has a taste for things of beauty. "However, what I have is not really a collection." At least, he rarely spends money for it. But where do the beautiful pictures, the hundreds of wooden and stone horses come from? His friends, who are spread out over the whole world always send him beautiful presents, "because they know that I can appreciate them." Joop Ave, who once knew the bitterness of life, is deeply interested in all kinds of human activity. He is always ready to extend a helping hand, "because that is the only way I can show my thanks for what I have become now." But what kind of person is Joop Ave really? Wherever he has a meal, without any feeling of shame he bows his head and folds his hands together to pray before eating. When he made a trip to Bangladesh to prepare for the state visit of President Soeharto, after being taken on a trip around the country to show him what would be interesting to be seen by the Indonesian president, he returned to the Intercontinental Hotel, where he was staying. In his hotel room he knelt down and prayed, "Oh God, thank you for your goodness to the Indonesian people, that our country is no longer like this country." Subsequently, in the interview he said, "I am a person who is always doing something." Now always doing something is in fact his philosophy of life. For, he says, however far a person goes in this life and however much money he makes, he has an obligation to return some of it to society, "in whatever form, dedication to something, even a short time is enough, if you want to do it." [Excerpts] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 14 Mar 82 pp 1, 12] 5170

ADI SASONO--Adi Sasono was born on 16 February 1943 in Pekalongan, Central Java. He is the director of the Development Studies Association (LSP) in Jakarta. He is member of the National Development Working Group of the National Defense and Security Council. He is also a member of the Development Council of the Agrobusiness Development Center in Jakarta. He studied civil engineering at Bandung Institute of Technology (1961-1968) and at Las Centrum in Utrecht, the Netherlands (1974). He studied financial management, production, and materials and construction at Las Centrum (1975). He was chairman of the Student Council at Bandung Institute of Technology (1967), secretary general of the Executive Council of the Indonesian Student Press Association (1968). He was general manager of PT Krama Yudha and Philips Welding Electrode Manufacturing Company; chairman of the Indonesian Welding Industry Association (1976-1978); and general chairman of the Association of Indonesian Society for Humanity. He has been active in several policy studies involving social and economic questions and has attended various seminars in Indonesia and overseas. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 1, Jan 82 p 96] 5170

ARIEF BUDIMAN--Arief Budiman was born in Jakarta in 1941. He is a teacher of development sociology at the University of Satyawacana in Salatiga [Central Java] and was an activist in student movements between 1966 and 1972. He graduated from the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Indonesia in Jakarta (1968) and obtained a Ph D degree from Harvard University in the United States (1981) with a dissertation entitled, "The Mobilization and the State Strategies in the Democratic Transition to Socialism: the Case of Allende's Chile." He has been active in attending seminars in Indonesia and overseas and has written several books, including "Pembagian Kerja Secara Seksual" [The Sexual Division of Labor]. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 1, Jan 82 p 96] 5170

M DAWAM RAHARDJO--M Dawam Rahardjo was born in Surakarta (Central Java) in 1942. He is director of the Institute for Economic and Social Research, Education, and Information (LP3ES) in Jakarta. He graduated from the Faculty of Economics of the University of Gadjah Mada (1960). He has been active in directing survey and research projects, including a survey of the rattan industry in Central and South Kalimantan, as well as a feasibility study on the industrialization of the timber industry in East Kalimantan. He has attended seminars in Indonesia and overseas. He has written several works published by the LP3ES, including: "Hasil Penelitian Kerajinan Rakyat Jawa Timur" [Results of Research on the People's Handicraft Industry in East Java], "Unit Perencanaan Daerah" [Regional Planning Unit], "Hasil Penelitian Industrial Craft and Design" [Results of Industrial Craft and Design Research], "Pesantren dan Pembaharuan" (editor) [Muslim Religious Schools and Renewal], and "Profil Pesantren" [Profile of a Religious School]. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 1, Jan 82 p 96] 5170

M SASTRAPRATEDJA--M Sastrapratedja was born on 22 October 1943 in Wonosobo [Central Java]. He is chairman of Driyarkara Graduate School of Philosophy in Jakarta. He is a teacher of philosophy at Driyarkara Graduate School of Philosophy and in the Faculty of Literature of the University of Indonesia. He is chairman of Department II of the Ethical Development Center of Atma Jaya Catholic University. He attended courses in the Faculty of Philosophy of the Athenaeum in Poona, India (1969) and in the Faculty of Theology of the Institute of Theological Philosophy in Yogyakarta (1974). He obtained his Ph D degree from the Gregorian University in Rome (1978). He has been active in attending seminars in Indonesia and overseas. In November, 1981, he attended the conference of the World Union of Catholic Philosophical Associations in Cochin, India. He has been active in writing for the mass media in Indonesia and overseas. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 1, Jan 82 p 96] 5170

SRIJUA ARIEF--Sritua Arief was born on 25 May 1938 in Medan, North Sumatra. He completed his studies at Cornell University in the United States in 1963 and obtained an M B A degree. Later, after working in the academic field and as a consultant, he continued his education in the Department of Economics and Commerce of the University of Hull, in England, and obtained a Ph D degree in economics in 1979. He is a teacher in the Faculty of Economics and Administration of the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. He is general manager of Indoconsult Associates in Jakarta and a fellow in the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore. He is a guest lecturer in the

the Department of Economics and Statistics of National University of Singapore and a consultant to the United Nations in New York. From 1975 to the present he has been the director of a Southeast Asian economic and social research group. He is also a member of the Development Council of the Development Studies Association in Jakarta. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 1, Jan 82 p 96] 5170

CSO: 4213/50

DISAGREEMENT EXPRESSED OVER POLITICIANS, PRESS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 26 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "President, Politicians and Press"]

[Text]

IN the course of his recent Press conference at Lahore, the President was uncharacteristically harsh on the politicians and the Press. Specially referring to some developments on the political front following the lifting of pre-censorship, he said, "The atmosphere that has been created for the (last) one month or so is dangerous."

We find it difficult to see any "danger" on the national horizon. There are rumblings of discontent but only among isolated pockets of striking professionals like doctors and teachers. The politicians have been, to use the President's words, trying to "gang up" but if their track record in the last four years is any indicator of their future performance, the Government need not have any worries on this count. Perhaps, all these have got to do more with the month of March when people expect things to happen. However, observers were generally surprised at the tone and content of the President's remarks because, despite policies to the contrary, he has always projected an image of amiable humility. His comments on the politicians and the Press require some hard thinking.

There is no doubt that one reason for the relative stability of the last four and a half years has been due to the fact of the President being a better politician than his professional counterparts. In large measure, his stay in office has been comfortable because of their perennial infighting and their inability to mobilise the masses. The politicians in Pakistan are a much-maligned lot. It is unfortunate that their failings are erroneously equated with those of the democratic system. Since the President has reaffirmed his commitment to eventually transfer power to the elected representatives of the people (that is, politicians), "liberalisation" and further opening up is imperative. The other option is withdrawal into a bureaucratic bunker, where the "all is well" line is peddled by sycophants and time-servers with no link with the existing

reality. In this respect, the Press can play a central role. It can keep the Government informed and it can serve as a channel for "letting off steam". In any case, in countries like Pakistan, Governments are never threatened or toppled by candid editorials or extensive news coverage. In a structured environment, the Press does serve the Government's interest by highlighting areas of unrest and enabling it to act before it is too late.

Rather regrettably, the propensity of every Government has been to tighten the lid and close virtually all avenues of legitimate expression. The result is "splendid isolation" coupled with a siege mentality with an explosion then becoming inevitable. We would hope and wish the Government does not traverse the path whose consequences it is well aware of.

CSO: 4220/481

BACKING FOR 'SUPPORT ZIA CAMPAIGN' URGED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 30 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] Mr Farooq Ahmed Saleem, Chairman of the Support Zia Campaign, urged the politicians and the party workers to support the nationwide campaign to defend the present Government and to stay within their political parties.

Addressing a Press conference yesterday at Hotel Jabees he said that he had recently met politicians, trade unionists, students, journalists and others and noticed discontent among them not with the Government, but with the bureaucrats that had not yet implemented the Government policies.

He stated that some bureaucrats had been intentionally not implementing government policies and he had noticed this hesitation even among the diplomatic staff abroad.

He has appealed to the Government not to take action against any section of the people except those officials who are creating a credibility gap between the Government and the people.

Campaign Lauded

Mr Saleem, who lives in London and is visiting Pakistan, highlighted the Support Zia Campaign which started three years back in Lond. He said they had made the western media and the people abroad aware of the excellent policies adopted by the Government and the development work presently being undertaken in the country.

He said that the Support Zia Campaign was a movement and not a political party. They had not been financed by the Government or any party but were being supported by the Pakistanis who wanted to see the country remain strong. He added that even the Pakistan Embassy in London had not provided them with token support.

In reply to a question he did not wish to disclose the names of the politicians he intended to meet but added that many politicians known for their role in the opposition had been contacted.

Amongst the politicians abroad he said even people like Mustafa Khar and Jam Sadiq Ali were spoken to.

He said that efforts of the anti-government interests abroad had been thwarted and now when some of these politicians attempted to organise anti-Pakistan rallies abroad they did not have the support of the Pakistanis living there.

He said the aim of their movement would be to counter misinformation being provided to the people by the vested interests in the hope that instability would be created among the nation.

He urged the Pakistanis to make this country a fortress of Islam.

Transition Period

Mr Mohammad Yusuf Kureshy, convener of the Support Zia Committee of Pakistan said that a transition period was necessary in the country during which nominated experts and elected representatives were given key roles in the Government of the country.

He stated that gradually in this manner elected representatives could then be fully handed power.

He emphasised that presently if election were held the country would be in very grave danger.

He stated that compared to other countries in the immediate geographical area there was greater stability in Pakistan.

He highlighted the problems in the country that the Government would have to continue to tackle and he urged the people not to be taken in by the politicians who continued to remain in opposition just for the sake of opposing a government.

CSG: 4220/481

SKILLED WORKERS TARGETS OUTLINED

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Mar 82 p 4

[Text] Rawalpindi, March 24--Mr Ghulam Dastgir Khan, the Minister for Labour and Manpower, on Monday said that the Government had launched a long-term national training programme which would on completion produce 71,186 skilled workers every year.

Speaking at a function organised by the All-Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions, the Minister said the project would cost over Rs 420 million. Under this programme, he said, in collaboration with ILO, six new vocational training centres were being established and 31 vocational schools would be equipped with the latest machinery and laboratories.

Mr Dastgir Khan said that the Government was already training 21,000 people annually in 40 different skills under a crash programme and Rs 3.30 crore had been spent on this project during the last four years.

Similarly the Minister pointed out the Overseas Pakistanis Foundation had so far trained 12 000 persons in 21 vocations in its polytrade schools and private institutions sponsored by the Foundation. He also listed the federal programme for skill development costing Rs 30 million. Under this programme the Minister said 11 institutions would be provided with better equipment and upgraded by arranging refresher courses for instructors.

The Minister said these were a part of the overall plan of the present Government to improve workers' living conditions by improving their general and technical education.

The Minister said with the assistance of the ILO the Government would also establish four centres for training workers in trade union activities. He said the centres would be established at Hyderabad, Rawalpindi, Quetta and Peshawar as such centres were already functioning in major cities like Lahore and Karachi.

He said although it was the responsibility of federations to train the affiliated unions to improve their bargaining ability the Government was taking steps to educate workers. He said the federations should also come forward by opening such training centres.--APP

CSO: 4220/481

CLOSING OF NEWSPAPERS RULED OUT

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Mar 82 p 6

[Text]

MULTAN March, 26 Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Raja Zafarul Haq, said here today the government neither contemplated any change in the present self-censorship policy nor it intended to close down any newspaper.

Talking to newsmen at the airport on his arrival here today on a two-day visit, he said there had been no change in the censorship policy in the recent past.

He said the experiment of self-censorship had been quite successful except for a few cases where newspapers transgressed limits. He said some enthusiasm by the Press was according to expectations which was natural after easing of restrictions.

However, the action of few newspapers was not in line with the objective conditions. Elaborating he said when politics was banned in the country in view of the objective conditions around us, the newspapers should also reflect these restrictions.

The projection of such activities by some newspapers, he said, was out of tune with the reality. He said by and large the response of the newspapers had been very encouraging and in accordance with the government policy.

Replying to a question regarding remarks of President Ziaul Haq at his recent Press conference at Lahore, the Minister said the government had no intention of closing down any newspaper in the country.

He said there was no censorship on the literary magazines. He said dummy newspapers could not be allowed in the country under the

law. He said many people had got declarations, but they were not publishing their newspapers or magazines as required under the law.

Raja Zafarul Haq said government was providing maximum facilities for the promotion of the regional Press whose role was of no less importance.

Replying to another question he said projection of Pakistan abroad has been upgraded by taking various steps. He said a full day was devoted to discussion on the matter in the recent conference of the Pakistan Ambassadors in Islamabad.

Information Minister said special documentaries had been prepared on various facts of the Pakistan life for screening in foreign countries. Booklets containing facts on Pakistan had been translated into different languages and sent abroad. Publicity wings in the embassies abroad had also been activated.

Replying to a question he said there was no truth that some Ministers had resigned from the government. The Press he said should not indulge in witch-hunting he added.

Raja Zafarul Haq said the government proposed to make the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) a corporate body in accordance with the wishes of its employees.

He said there were three proposals regarding the future of the news agency. These were to make it government organisation, to restore its earliest status or to make it a corporate body.

He said the APP employees whom he met on various occasions wanted the agency to turn into a corporate body. —APP

MINISTER ON CONSUMER GOODS, TRANSNATIONALS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Mar 82 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, March, 27: The Federal Minister for Industries, Elahi Bakhsh Soomro, today said the country was now self-sufficient in many consumer goods and also had a good engineering base which could produce over 70 per cent of any traditional industrial plant.

The Minister was speaking at the workshop of "negotiating technology acquisition agreements with transnational corporation", inaugurated by Klaus Sahlgren Executive Director of the United Nations centre on transnational corporations, at the Pakistan Administrative Staff College here this morning.

The five-day workshop has been organised by United Nations Centre on transnational corporations at the request of the Ministry of Industries and Corporate Law Authority.

Pakistan, Mr. Soomro said, was in the process of developing intermediate goods by exploitation of agricultural and mineral materials and it needed assistance in product development and export outlet for goods which were produced in accordance with universal specification. Transnationals, he added, could give such assistance by giving franchise, arranging sub-contracting or providing off-take guarantees.

The Industries Minister said Pakistan had reached a state of development where a new look should be given to the contribution by transnational corporations. Mr. Soomro told the participants of the workshop that Pakistan had a proper law on foreign investment whereunder repatriation of capital and remittance of dividend was freely allowed. There were also no restrictions on employment of expatriates, payment of royalties,

procurement of imported equipment, loan financing through foreign participants and foreign travels.

By and large, the Minister said, the relationship between transnational corporations and Pakistani firms or Pakistan Government was safe, sound and smooth. Once in a while, he observed there was a storm in tea cup which was invariably settled with full co-operation of all concerned.

He said transnational corporations have, in many cases, acted as conduit to transfer financial resources and technology from the industrialised countries to the less developed countries. They had provided not only risk capital and loan, most often in the form of foreign exchange, but also advanced technology and managerial know-how, usually lacking in the developing countries. However, the Minister added more often than not the tendency of transnational corporations, such as maximising return of their investment confining sales to homemarket and omitting to promote greater use of materials, had come in to conflict with the socio-economic objectives of the host countries. These objectives, he said, ranged from rapid economic growth to diversification of the economy, acquisition of new technology, fuller use of economic resources and equitable distribution of the benefits of economic growth.

Mr. Soomro expressed the trust that workshop such as to one being held in Pakistan helped bring about a greater harmony between the objectives of the transnational corporations and the host countries.—APP

PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER PROJECT PLANNED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Mar 82 p 7

[Text]

The IPB understood to have cleared a new project envisaging establishment of a plant in the district of Thatta, Sind to manufacture phosphatic fertilizer. The project has been recommended to the ECC for approval.

The project has been sponsored in the private sector by the Al-Noor Group of Industrialists, who hold 50 per cent share capital in Al-Noor Sugar Mills and Shah Murad Sugar Mills. It may be mentioned that the project CIPC was initiated last year and the had issued a letter of intent in favour of the sponsors for the establishment of the proposed project but at the same time, they were advised to examine the possibility feasibility of using Hazara Rock Phosphates as raw material for manufacturing phosphatic fertilizer in the said project instead of importing rock phosphate from abroad. In compliance the sponsors reportedly consulted with relevant authorities of the NWFP and PCSIR. It was found that Hazara Rock Phosphate, which is yet to be commercially exploited, contains larger percentages of iron and aluminium and these rocks were not suitable for use as raw materials in the manufacture of phosphatic fertilizer unless these rocks are processed in a Benefication plant which, in turn involved an estimated investment of Rs. 1500 million in addition to an underterminable long period for implementation. Further, a British firm of mining consultants who has been engaged by the Farhad Development Authority was reported to have indicated that they would take at least a year (by the end of 1982) to prepare a detailed analysis of the chemical contents of Hazara Phosphate rocks including the feasibility study for

the establishment of benefication plant to process Hazara Phosphatic rocks.

Against the above background, a DAP fertilizer project, if based as an integrated unit with the proposed benefication plant would involve over-capitalisation. As against this, if the benefication plant is established in future as an independent venture, it would be made to serve as a source of raw material for a good many DAP fertilizer projects in different parts of the country.

In the light of these facts, the project was given consideration afresh by the CIPC last month and it was cleared for submission to the ECC.

The project, the feasibility study of which has been prepared by one of the world renowned consultants on fertilizer industry would have the plant capacity to manufacture 330,000 metric tons or 152,000 nutrient tons of DAP fertilizer annually.

It will be based on imported rock phosphates from Jordan which would involve an estimated annual foreign exchange expenditure of Rs. 533.257 million equivalent.

The foreign exchange expenditure on imported raw material works out to about 91.4 per cent of total raw material cost per annum.

The plant proposed to be established somewhere between Ghara and Dhabaji near Karachi, in Thatta District, would involve a total cost of approximately Rs. 1,450.00 million including the initial working capital requirements of Rs. 20.00 million. The foreign exchange funds needed to finance the import of plant and machinery are estimated at Rs. 870.00 million which will be obtained as longterm loans from

the machinery suppliers of the U.K. Japan and Poland.

The interest rate on foreign loans is stated to be at 7-1/2 per cent per annum with a repayment period of 10 years in addition to a grace period of three years. It is stated that the plant/machinery to be procured on world-wide basis would cost about Rs 689.238 million equivalent in foreign exchange while the remaining amount of Rs 180.762 million out of the proposed foreign exchange loans, will be utilized to meet contingencies such as escalation in machinery prices, interest expenses during construction period etc. The sponsors do not have plans to enter into technical assistance or royalty agreements with any foreign firm. Instead, the Machinery Suppliers will themselves provide technical know-how, for which necessary provision is stated to have been made in the cost of machinery. The Machinery Suppliers will depute their technical personnel for the creation and installation of the plant and will also provide training facilities to Pakistani personnel/engineers. No separate payment is envisaged to make to foreign technicians for this purpose.

Of the estimated local currency cost of Rs 290.00 million, sponsors are expected to contribute Rs 72.50 million as their share of equity to the extent of 25 per cent, while 50 per cent or shares of Rs 145.00 million will be offered to general investing public and NIT for subscription. The balance

of Rs 72.50 million is expected to be provided by Bankers Equity Ltd in the form of equity participation.

The installed capacity in the country for the manufacture of Phosphatic fertilizer is of the order of 88,600 Nutrient tons while additional capacity, sanctioned so far, is in the vicinity of 153,617 Nutrient tons. Total installed and sanctioned capacity thus comes to 242,217 Nutrient tons. But actual production in 1979-80 of Phosphatic fertilizer was estimated at 49,779 Nutrient tons as against which the present demand for phosphatic fertilizer is estimated around 274,000 Nutrient tons and the projected demand for 1984-85 is placed at 416,000 Nutrient tons.

Thus there exists a wide gap between the installed and sanctioned capacity and actual demand at the present moment. As a result, imports of phosphatic fertilizer have sharply increased from 204,760 Nutrient tons in 1978-79 to as high as 280,421 Nutrient tons in 1980-81 involving huge expenditure in foreign exchange.

In view of this, the establishment of new projects in this field is a welcome development for achieving import substitution in DAP fertilizer. Moreover, the new plants would also prove instrumental in transfer of a new technology in addition to creating additional employment opportunities and generation of value-added by manufacture.

SIND PLAN TO MODERNIZE AGRICULTURE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Mar 82 p 6

[Text]

KARACHI, March 26: The Sind Government has launched an Agricultural Extension and Adaptive Research Project with the assistance of the World Bank to help modernise agriculture in the province, it is learnt.

Under the project, training and visit system of agricultural extension work Field Assistant is being introduced initially to five districts where extensive extension work will be done. It will be extended to the rest of the districts in the next phase.

The project envisages an increase in the number of extension staff in direct contact with farmers, who will contact farmers at least once in a fortnight on a fixed day.

Four adaptive research farms will provide research findings and well-tested technical information to

the field assistants for onward transmission to farmers.

To make field workers mobile, one cycle will be provided to each Field Assistant, one motorcycle to each Agriculture Officer and suitable transport to supervising officers.

There will be provision of residence-cum-office to each Field Assistant in the village and to 50 per cent of Agricultural Officers at tehsil level.

With these facilities housing, transport, etc, it is hoped that crop yields will increase by 1990 from 17.0 to 22.2 maunds in case of wheat from 11 to 15.4 in case of phutti from 25 to 33.6 maunds in case of paddy, and from 400 to 537 maunds per acre in case of sugarcane. - PPI

CSO: 4220/481

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WORK ONLY WHEN HIGH OFFICIALS INTERVENE PERSONALLY

Karachi JANG in Urdu 26 Feb 82 p 8

[Article by Ali Shufiyan Afaqi: "We Need To Protect Our Ears, Not Chase the Crow"]

[Text] Munoo Bhai has been writing his excellent columns for some time. We thought that perhaps only people like us were admirers of them, but a few days ago we read the news and learned that "there are other worlds beyond the stars" [Iqbal].

The effect of his columns reaches even beyond the boundaries of Pakistan, so when he wrote about an incident in a distant area of the Punjab and the way in which our administration acts to protect "the veil and the four walls" we thought that the police involved must certainly have read the column, just as we did. He wrote in his column how an innocent, honorable girl was dishonored by some hoodlums in front of a busload of people, and most of the people in the bus were struck dumb with fear. Not only that, but there was not only no investigation of this incident but not even a report lodged with the police. Reading of these people who remained silent spectators, and of the audacity of the hooligans, we were silenced by the saying that the stone and brick are imprisoned, and the dog is free.

But as God would have it, the President of Pakistan, who at that time was on a trip outside the country, read Munoo Bhai's column in Paris and was so affected by it that he immediately advised the inspector general of police that there should be a full investigation made of this incident and that the criminals should be given the punishment fixed for this crime. The Punjab police went into action without wasting any time, and the inspector general of police gave the order to the S. P. of the locality involved, and the S.P. to the D.S.P., and the D.S.P. to the station police chief and the station police chief to his assistants that this incident should be investigated. By the time this is being written, there has come forth the result of the diligent efforts of the police. The police could not find a witness that the event had even occurred. The police department is waiting and is seeking the help of the bus conductor and the passengers who witnesses this incident while not daring to breath and just waiting for it to be over.

We are afraid that after running about fruitlessly for a while, the police will ask Munoo Bhai himself to tell them how, when and where this incident occurred, and would he please provide an eyewitness? This fact, at any rate, will be of comfort to the citizens of Pakistan. The police, having investigated this incident with great zeal, have concluded that only God knows if any such incident ever occurred or not, and if it occurred, whether there is any truth to it or it was merely the influence of a poetic temperament on the imagination of the columnist. You and I should know that eventually this inquiry, too, like the investigation of similar incidents, will end up in the way reserved for such diligent activities, in a file. About what happens to it after it enters a file, it will be safely said:

The cow ate the file. The butcher took away the cow.
And the butcher died on the way. And all is in God's care.

Well, that is how offices work. Now let us look at another aspect of this story. A fellow who sells cigarettes at a small stall in Model Town read this news and asked us, "Babu ji, tell me something."

I said, "Yes?"

He said, "The president read this news in Paris. Don't our Pakistani police read teh papers?"

Now this question was so pointless that it would have been a waste of time to answer it, so we evaded it and didn't bother to tell him that in fact the nature of our system of government nowadays is such that until the high officials of the country or province whisper in the ears of the departments involved, not even a louse will crawl over their ears. This order of President Zia-ul-Haq suddenly reminded us of a similar situation when incidents of armed robbery at night had become very common in the Punjab, and the papers were daily studded with such news. Dozens of such incidents appeared in the course of a few days, though who knows if the departments involved read about them or not. In the meantime, the house of a film actress, Zamrudi, was robbed, and a few days later so was the house of film actress Shabnam. The newspapers began to publish pictures of Shabnam and Zamrudi with great care, and as usual the police departments began their investigations with great zeal. These investigations were still going on when the President of Pakistan happened to fly from Rawalpindi to Lahore, and as is his habit, he had read about the incidents occurring in Lahore while he was in Rawalpindi. So when he saw the inspector general of police at the Lahore airport, he asked, in view of the great commotion in the papers, "Sir, what is happening with the Shabnam robbery case?" And the President ordered that the robbers be arrested within 24 hours.

Note the alacrity of the Punjab police. Within 12 hours they caught the "criminals" and put them behind bars.

What did this prove? That our police are extremely prompt and dutiful and that if the president of the country continually gives them orders then their work can continually be of the best.

This is not limited to the police. It seems that every department and institution in the country is in need of the direct supervision of the president. You can judge this for yourself by reading the columns of complaints in the daily papers. Every newspaper takes it upon itself to publish two pages, or rather often four pages, of "special notices" in which the complaints start their complaints like this, "Would the president of the country give his attention" or "For the personal attention of the governor." At least one thing is clear from these complaints, and that is that people are convinced that no department will take any action until the leader of the country or a high official of the province gives his personal attention to the matter. In past years when various governments started "people's courts" they too were operating under this philosophy, and we all know how swarms of people took part in these courts. And you and I are also not unaware of the way these complaints eventually made their way back to the departments involved, and the way in which they were treated, because no ruler, unless he was King Solomon's army of genies, can cure every complaint, nor can he check on the result of every complaint that has gone back to some department.

But one thing is absolutely clear. You will not see such petitions "for the removal of complaints" addressed to the leader of the country in the newspapers of any civilized and cultured country in the world. You won't see any appeals to President Reagan in American newspapers, for example, that "such and such a department has been unjust to me," nor have we seen any letter of complaint "to the attention of Margaret Thatcher" in British newspapers. Nor has there been any letter of the sort "for President Mitterand's personal attention" in France. Rather, in these countries they have started a movement for less government control of departments and institutions.

Now the question arises, why are the American, British and French newspapers so insensitive that they don't take the trouble to publish peoples' complaints? Or perhaps the rulers of these countries don't have the time to pay attention to such "important matters" as electricity meters in homes and cleaning the streets? Or maybe the leaders of these countries are so powerless that they are unable to make their departments do any work by virtue of their "personal attention?" But there is one other possibility. Perhaps the departments in these countries do not need to have direct contact with the leader of the country or its high officials in order to do their work effectively. We suspect that this latter case must be the correct one, because although there are hundreds of thousands of letters of complaint published in our country asking for the attention of the head of the government, we look in vain for any news that a high official has resigned because of defective work in his department, or that the minister of communications resigned after a bus accident or that the minister of construction has quit after a road break. Or that the high official of some department has been suspended and a case lodged against him and that

the gentleman has gone to jail. We once gave a list in this column of the governors, senators, members of congress and high American officials who were in jail because of various illegal actions and who had been fined hundreds of thousands of dollars. That is, it is a matter of accountability on high levels. If every high official is considered responsible for the actions of his department, rather than just the peons and clerks and constables bearing the brunt, you will see for yourself how things change. If this were so, the leader of our country and the high officials of the provinces would not have to waste their time on small complaints but could devote themselves to higher goals. And like President Reagan, President Mitterand and Margaret Thatcher, our president too would be released from having his name on such complaints in the newspaper. In the final analysis, it is the philosophy of the crow and the ear. It is appropriate to repeat this philosophy once more as a reminder. It happened that someone said to a fellow, "Sir, look, a crow has taken your ear and flown off." He set off in a great hurry after the crow and neither touched his hand to his ear to see if it were still there nor made any arrangement for its protection. What he needed was not to run after the crow but to protect his ear.

Would that Munoo Bhai might convey this philosophy, too, to the president by way of his column!

991.

CSW: 4203/82

STATE PURCHASES TO STABILIZE RICE PRICES

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 15 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by V. Varathasuntharam]

[Text] The Paddy Marketing Board is to endeavour to purchase ten to twelve million bushels of paddy from the 1981-1982 harvest.

This is revealed in a directive sent by the President Mr J.R. Jayewardene to the Minister of Agricultural Development and Research Mr E.L. Senanayaka.

In his directive the President has stressed that Cultivation Officers, District Officers and Special Service Officers should assist the Paddy Marketing Board in its efforts.

Following the President's directive the Minister of Agricultural Development and Research has made a personal appeal to all Government Agents to take keen interest in that drive.

Mr E.L. Senanayaka states that the Government was committed to ensure that farmers received the price guaranteed for paddy.

During the latter part of last year farmers received prices higher than what was guaranteed under the G.P.S.

However during the peak harvesting period prices slumped and the PMB ensured the farmers the guaranteed price.

Harvesting in major paddy producing areas would commence shortly and every effort must be directed to the purchase of paddy by the PMB that producers were protected from falling prices.

There was another aspect to that exercise due to the low level of procurement by the PMB last year, the quantity of paddy with the government to stabilise the price of rice to the consumer was inadequate.

As a result sharp increases in price of rice were noted towards the end of last year.

As much as government had a responsibility to ensure a fair income to producers, it has a responsibility towards consumers as well.

We could ensure a stable price only if organizations such as PMB procured an adequate stock of paddy which could later be channelled to consumers at a reasonable price.

CSO: 4220/478

PLANTATION WORKERS ASSURED BETTER DEAL

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 15 Mar 82 p 1

[text]

PRESIDENT J. R. Jayewardene yesterday assured the country's plantation workers that the Government would treat them fairly in the allocation of resources and was always ready to give a better deal to the estate workers. He was addressing the annual sessions of the Ceylon Workers' Congress at Nuwara Eliya.

The President said that the wages of plantation workers had been increased recently. Wages could be increased further if not for the Rs. 2 billion export tax. But he could not ask the Finance Minister to reduce the tax since he had to balance his Budget, the President said.

The President told CWC members that there should not be any conflict of interests between the CWC and UNP trade unions in the plantations. They should work together. Several CWC members had been able to secure election to LCs and DDCs and this would not have been possible without UNP support. "I hope with the support of the UNP your people will be able to

get more representation even in Parliament," Mr. Jayewardene said.

The President said that 625,000 plantation workers had applied for Sri Lanka citizenship but Government's commitment was to provide citizenship only to 375,000 persons. Citizenship would be granted on a 4:7 ratio. Mr. Jayewardene explained at length the facilities provided by the Government to those who were being repatriated. They were paid an allowance of Rs. 500 each.

The President said since 1977, 143,000 new jobs had been generated in the estate sector. Wages had been increased. Workers also got bigger bonuses and more holiday pay etc.

Earlier Rural Industrial Development Minister and CWC President S. Thondaman urged the Government to give plantation workers a full month's work. Even a work could not be given for the

Ref: 4220/478

NEWEST PARTY ADVOCATES REFORMS

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 15 Mar 82 p 1

[Text]

A group of leading businessmen and social workers in Kandy have formed a political party named the 'Sri Lanka People's Democratic Development Party'.

A spokesman for the party said that they were of the view that no Government so far had solved the urgent problems faced by the people. The aim of the newly-formed party was to usher in a society free of corruption, bribery and wastage of public money.

Some highlights of the party's manifesto are:

- Local industry must be promoted and the producer encouraged
- All public figures found to have indulged in activities against the interests of the people must be punished
- Legislation must be enacted to curb corruption, fraud and wastage
- The salaries of public servants must be increased
- Patriots must be appointed to the Administrative Service
- Citizens over 18 years of age must be given a military training
- The Government monopoly of the press must be abolished and newspapers drawn into the development process.

SIRIMAVO VOICES DEFIANCE

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 19 Mar 82 p 2

[Article by Jayasena Wijayarathna]

[Text] "JR will never be able to stop me from coming back to power," said Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, addressing a largely attended SLFP rally held at the Galle Town Hall premises on Sunday evening.

Among the other SLFP(S) Group present were Messrs T.B. Illangaratne, Hector Kobbekaduwa, K.B. Ratnayaka, Karunasena Jayalath, Indrapala Abeyweera, Vijaya Kumaranatunga, Sarath Dias, Mahinda Wijesekara and former MP Minister Mr P.I. William de Silva.

Mrs Bandaranaike said that after she lost her civic rights there has been some differences of opinion within the party. After the differences took a turn for the worse she had to expel the Deputy Leader of the Party, Maitripala Senanayake and others.

She did not wish to go into that question any further because as far as she was concerned she considered the UNP and its Leader Mr J.R. Jayewardene as the worst enemies of this country and it was her duty to campaign against them to save this country and religion from ruin. Sri Lanka, she said, is one of the greatest Buddhist countries with a historic past. Buddhism was still found in its purest form and we have a great culture not second to any other in the world. But today our religion and culture are in grave danger, the economy of the country is chaotic. The aim of the SLFP is to salvage the country and save our religion and culture, Mrs Bandaranaike added.

Prime Minister Mr Premadasa, when he was in power, said that before the government started talking about development they must make the people to live--provide the most essential food. But what is happening today, she asked. Where is the development? Are the people being fed? Nothing of the kind. There is colossal wastage of money. Ministers, MPs, Corporation Chairmen, Officials and stooges of politicians are very well off. Some of them are millionaires today. One time paupers are now in the lap of luxury. They cut down all subsidies, increase prices of goods, bus and train fares etc., all in the name of development. But actually there is no real

development; the country's money is robbed and squandered. When rogues are caught, they are shielded and protected; when they are taken into custody they are released by the government. The Mahaveli Scheme as it is today is a colossal waste. Kotte Parliamentary Complex is eating up all the money. It has cost Rs. 90 million. JR is shifting the administrative capital to Kotte to perpetuate his name. During the regime of her government also there was a suggestion to have a bigger Parliament.

A committee was appointed to go into the question and a report on the subject was handed to the government. That report had suggested expanding the present Parliament buildings. But as she considered the expenses involved far too much, she on her own as Prime Minister rejected the idea, Mrs Bandaranaike went on.

The UNP have framed laws to run the country as they please, to take people into custody as they want. Now they have started appointing outsiders to the Administrative Service. The SLFP will take every possible step to put an end to this UNP misrule, Mrs Bandaranaike said. The UNP used its Parliamentary power to deprive her of her civic rights. The UNP wants to wipe out all their political opponents from the political arena. When she was sent out of Parliament she did not want to go home and keep mum. She told the people that she would march ahead with them fighting for their cause. "The more the UNP places obstacles on my way the more courage will I get. I am not fond of office but I have a right to continue the good work started by my late husband," she added.

"I will never be able to stop me coming back to power," she said. He is aware of the true situation in the country today. They are getting reports from various sources informing the government about the present trend in the country. It is quite clear to them that they can never come back to power by the ballot. They know that she is the only obstacle in their way; they want to shut her mouth and are now trying to frame legislation to do it, she said. Why are they so frightened about her, she asked. She said that Prime Minister Premadasa is reported to have said that the people are waiting to send them back to power again. Mrs Bandaranaike said she would challenge the PM that he would never be able to do it. If they are so sure of victory why can't they give back her civic rights and face a straight fight with her, she queried.

Speaking further, Mrs Bandaranaike said that this country is now on the verge of a dictatorship. That is the reason why the UNP is trying to keep her out of politics, she said.

Referring to the Prime Minister, Mrs Bandaranaike said that while the people are starving the government is spending millions of rupees on useless things. The Prime Minister goes about the country and having tamashas. At any given time one will notice that four or five Ministers are out of the country. Our local hospitals are not good enough for the Prime Minister. He goes all the way to St. Francisco for medical treatment. Sri Lankan schools are not good enough for his children. She considered it a disgrace for the Prime Minister to say that his hospital bill was paid by an American doctor friend of his.

This poor man's friend is spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees for the education of his children in the best of schools abroad and locally. All this is quite contrary to what Mr Premadasa told the people at the last general elections. He preached one thing at the last elections and now practices something completely different, she said.

In conclusion she said she would promise to give the people several essential food items at reasonable prices when they come back to power.

Among others who spoke were Messrs T.B. Illangaratna, K.B. Ratnayake, Hector Kobbe-kaduwa, P.H William de Silva, Indrapala Abeyweera, Karunasena Jayalath, Vijaya Kumaranatunga, Sarath Dias and Bandusena Silva.

CSO: 4220/479

FOREIGN AID SUPPORTS LANKA'S DEVELOPMENT

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 15 Mar 82 p 4

[Article by Nalin Wijesekera]

[Text]

THE Aid pledge at the last Sri Lanka Aid Group meeting in Tokyo amounted to SDR's 723.44 million—an all time record for the island economy. At each of these meetings Sri Lanka has continued to receive increased aid, in 1980, the aid pledge totalled US 842 million, while the 1981 pledges totalled US 948 million, an increase of 12.5 per cent.

But, as Sri Lanka's Finance Minister, Ronnie de Mel observed, "Foreign aid as a source of financing government expenditure is drying up... Due to economic difficulties their aid commitments are likely to decline in the future. We should therefore expect a rather sharp decline in aid commitment from 1982 upwards."

In this situation, if we are to continue with a massive development programme, we must raise substantial resources of our own.

The gross expenditure for 1982 is estimated at Rs. 58,991 million as against Rs. 50,407 million in fiscal 1981. Recurrent expenditure has risen from Rs. 16,557 million to Rs. 19,499 million, while the government's firm commitment to the maintenance of basic welfare measures such as medical services and education will not be pruned down.

Capital expenditure estimated at Rs. 13,850 million in 1982 will rise to Rs. 19,492 million in 1982, and would be held down as a major means of containing government expenditure within available resources, while the estimated capital expenditure in 1982 will be channelled for on-going projects.

This massive aid commitment used judiciously is expected to enable Sri Lanka to make the necessary structural changes and build up an economy capable of self-sustained growth and able to withstand adverse pressures from external resources. It has been due to this aid that the government has been able to attempt its current development programme. This programme however has admittedly grown unmanageable with the government's total expenditure running over the Rs. 30,000 million mark, while total revenue is less than half the projected expenditure.

Therefore in recent years concerted efforts have been made to augment local resources from foreign sources. Thus in 1980 the value of all foreign loans contracted amounted to Rs. 8,714 million, a 35 per cent increase over the previous year, while the Rs. 18,000 million pledged by the Aid Group meeting in 1981 is somewhat more than Sri Lanka's total national revenue of Rs. 14,000 million.

Scenarios A and B drawn up by the World Bank for 1982 as guidelines for Sri Lanka's economic policy formulation insist on restraint and discipline together with caution in projects that have a long gestation periods like the Mahaveli and on non-productive investments like housing and construction.

Future structural adjustment loans that Sri Lanka would be needing from the World Bank to finance balance of payments deficits, would certainly be considered on Sri Lanka's willingness to cut back on

unproductive investments. However economic discipline as orchestrated by the World Bank would mean the decelerating of most of the development programmes leading to slower growth and a longer wait for the fulfilment of pledges that would well be political suicide when reckoned in terms of the 1983 general election.

The pressures on the economy, particularly the resource gap, has necessitated a reversal in direction of some of the lead projects. The government has been compelled to reduce the magnitude of its public investment programme for 1981 and subsequent years, and it would be difficult to further prune this programme without cutting into productive sectors such as agriculture and industry, all of which prognosticate that the most difficult years when all expenditure will peak would be 1982 and 1983.

The Minister of Finance, in making his appeal to the Aid Group Meeting in Tokyo maintained that scope for further cuts in government expenditure on its investment programme was limited, though he assured the Group that we would make every endeavour to meet as much as possible of the cost of this programme by mobilising additional domestic resources. "Even without our very best efforts", he pointed out, "A large resources gap would still exist." He thus, strongly urged the donors of the Aid Group to provide the funds necessary to finance the shortfalls in the resources needed for on-going development projects and with commodity aid to finance essential imports like fertilisers, construction material, essential food items, machinery and raw materials.

Responsible for the deteriorating economic outlook was the

worsening balance of payments situation. Going back to the 1980 balance of payments developments reflect, an attempt on the part of the country to absorb more resources that it could generate internally, plus what could be mobilised from the rest of the world. Such a process is teneable only in the short run. Over the long run, once accumulated reserves are run down to critically low levels and the country's borrowing ability in the external markets is strained, more fundamental changes in policy would necessarily have to follow to protect the balance of payments.

Such policy changes will have to take the form of a further depreciation of the exchange rate, a more restrictive tariff policy and a very high degree of monetary restraint to moderate the rate of domestic absorption. Among the main features in this deterioration of the Balance of Payments are the falling terms of commodity trade, a widening deficit in merchandise and current account, a considerable loss of external reserves and a depreciation of Sri Lanka's rupee against most major currencies.

With the threateningly large deficits in the country's balance of payments forecast over the next five years (according to the Public Investment Programme 1981-85) it has become necessary to have in the aid pipeline a larger component of quick disbursing aid, not necessarily tied to implementation of development projects. The most important need now appears to be more flexible commodity aid, including aid which could be used to import capital equipment for development projects, where gaps in foreign financing have appeared.

PERSISTENCE OF CORRUPTION DEPLORED

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 17 Mar 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Ostriches, Witch Hunters and the Jelly Knead"]

[Text]

Periodically leading figures of the Government make pronouncements from public platforms against corruption which inevitably describes as a 'cancer'. Bloodcurdling threats of the dire consequences that will befall those who make a fast buck on the side are held out. But the tragedy is that all this remains merely on the level of platform rhetoric. If words alone can perform surgery and remove the cancer of corruption Sri Lanka would have become a livid-white land of the incorruptible by now.

A few weeks ago Government renewed its concern about corruption in the administration when it announced a scheme of rewards for public officers who detect acts of corruption and followed this by a announcement that President Jayawardene himself would take a personal interest in the anti-corruption drive which would be taken to the highest echelons of power. In this context the people are entitled to believe that this anti-corruption drive will not go the same way as its predecessors and die a premature death unperformed and unswept.

It is surely unnecessary to labour the point that the taint of corruption can undermine a people's faith in a Government as nothing else can. Corruption is undertaken by individuals but it does not take place in a vacuum. Bribery and all the other manifold sins associated with the concept of corruption are undertaken only by people who have the power and the position to get things done. Thus it becomes a political phenomenon. Ultimately it spells the political death of any administration which it ensnares in its lethal coils.

If the Government is serious about combating corruption it must, as we have repeatedly stressed, take immediate and effective punitive measures against offenders. We live in a time when the opportunities for large-scale corruption are easily available in the context of the free market economy and the proliferating development projects.

Even the political type knows that development projects mean tenders and tenders mean a readymade opportunity for some one to feather his nest. All the gossip that circulates in the Colombo political circuit may not be true but as long as Government does not take any action to unmask and punish the corrupt whom popular public opinion believes in it, its midst then so long will tongues continue to wag.

Recently Trade Minister Lahir Athulathmudali publicly lamented that the people were unwilling to come forward and give information about acts of corruption. In these columns we have already made the point that the people will come forward only if they have faith that the Government is ready to take action on the information they provide. Unfortunately the impression in the public mind is that Government's anti-corruption rhetoric is so much mere words and in this context it can hardly be expected that the people will take ministerial utterances very seriously.

Without waiting on its knees for the people to come to their rescue the Government would do well to take serious note of what appears in the

Without waiting on its knees for the people to come to their rescue the Government would do well to take serious note of what appears in the country's newspapers. In the past few months we ourselves have repeatedly exposed various questionable activities in the higher echelons of public corporations and semi-public bodies. The reaction to such exposures has been curious to say the least. The inevitable reflex action of the potty bureaucrats and political paman-drums who are affected by stories of corruption in the Press is to go on a witch hunt trying to discover who could have given the information to the newspapers. What inevitably happens is that it is the innocent who are suspected. If without going on these wild flights of murderous fancy on their broomsticks these tin pots Czars try to cleanse the mess which they frantically try to sweep under the nearest carpet they would be at least earning their keep. In this context it is upto the Government at the highest level to take serious note of the nauseating tales of chicanery and jobbery which appears in that section of the Press which is still free and take appropriate action speedily. This is not something that can be postponed any longer if the Government is at all serious about preserving its public image from the taint of corruption. Also it should tell the minions who are running some of its institutions that witch hunts cannot clear up the mess in which some of them are today wallowing.

PLANS TO FORM ANTI-UNP FRONT

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 1st Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Daya Lankapura]

[Text] Twelve leading members of the Lanka Samasamaja Party's Politbureau have asked the leadership to summon a special party conference to discuss a resolution proposing that the LSSP should immediately begin talks with Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike's wing of the SLFP and the TULF with a view to building an anti-UNP United Front before the next General Elections.

This faction in its letter to the party hierarchy has said that the reality today is that it is the SLFP under Mrs Bandaranaike's leadership which has consolidated itself as the major SLFP force in the country.

A spokesman for this faction told The Island that notice of the resolution had been given on February 12. At this time they had wanted the motion discussed at a Central Committee meeting. But the politbureau had refused even to answer their letter. Now they were demanding a special party conference.

The signatories to the letter are former Minister Anil Moonasinghe, Suma-
napala Dhanayake, former MP for Deniyaya, Kulasiri Kumara, J. Wanigatunge,
G.E.H. Perera, P.D. Wimalasena, Percy Wickremasekera, D.L. Pathirage,
Wilfred Senanayake, former MP for Homagama, D.W. Wijesuriya, James Kariya-
wasam and Ananda Perera.

The letter says that at the talks the party must come to an understanding about the number of seats the LSSP would be able to contest and the number of Cabinet portfolios the party would receive in the event of it accepting posts in a Government subsequent to a possible victory by the Front.

CSO: 4220/479

COMMUNAL STRIFE PREVENTION MEASURE DISCUSSED

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 19 Mar 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Home Guards Scheme: Possibilities and Pitfalls"]

[Text]

The Home Guards Scheme may yet be the only happy result to emerge from the unfortunate communal conflagration of August last year. Yesterday, reporting the weekly Cabinet press briefing, we announced that Government had approved the establishment of a country-wide Home Guards Scheme from May this year. This was one of the pivots round which the Government-TULF talks revolved and every one who hopes for communal amity in the country will wish the scheme success.

The co-opting of citizens acting as a voluntary body of law-enforcement personnel has taken place in many countries all over the world although it is a new phenomenon as far as Sri Lanka is concerned. But in times of crisis such as indeed the communal riots of last year and the outbreak of communal violence in 1977 citizens' committees, voluntarily formed, have done much to stem the tide of violence and restore a sense of sanity during troubled times. Public figures such as politicians, social workers etc. are fond of periodically rebuking the people of Sri Lanka for their lack of a civic consciousness but times without number our people have proved that they can rise to an occasion particularly during troubled time. Therefore this first-ever attempt to draw in the people into the law-enforcement process though without precedent is not an effort in a vacuum but has a background and a base.

The Home Guards can help the Police and supplement the efforts made by the legitimate guardians of the law particularly in the prevention of petty crime and safeguarding society from the lawless elements in its own midst. Because a Home Guard area will be small and therefore manageable and because the Home Guards will have an intimate knowledge of the area and its people it will be an invaluable support force to the Police. But the Home Guards as a body must ensure that the image of an oppressive force which is currently associated in the public mind with the Police does not rub off on them. The image that the Home Guards must try to project is that of a neighbourhood group trying to protect the community from lawlessness.

The Government has done well to ensure that the Home Guards scheme will receive the strict supervision of the regional authorities so that it will not be open to abuse. The Home Guard units will be under a District Watch Commit-

tee, which will consist of the District Minister, Chairman of the Development Council, the Government Agent and the Superintendent of Police. In the case of the plantations the Superintendents of estates will be appointed as Wardens in charge of Home Guard Units in their estates.

While it is thus necessary to keep a strict check on this new experiment it is equally necessary to ensure that the very mechanism erected to check abuses does not disrupt the working of the Home Guard scheme. In this context there is the danger of the Home Guard becoming a political instrument of the ruling party since it is our sad experience in Sri Lanka that whatever is evolved with the best of intentions is soon subverted and undermined so that it will finally end up as a caricature of its original intention.

The Member of Parliament of each electorate will play the role of consultant in the appointment of Home Guards. The ultimate running of the Home Guard units will be in the hands of a committee presided over by the District Minister. While it is certainly unfair to judge the Home Guard scheme before it gets going or pass premature judgement on it at this stage it is certainly not out of place to strike a note of caution in the context of past experience.

The Government must ensure that politics does not creep into the Home Guards scheme for this is the surest way to undermine the people's faith in the administration. In estate areas for example representatives of "recognised trade unions" can be consulted apart from the MP about the composition of the Home Guard units. "Recognised trade unions" are defined as trade unions recognised by the District Watch Committee. Here too there is the danger of political interference and trade unions hostile to the ruling party being shut out. This too will be counter-productive since once again the people will lose all faith in the scheme.

These are some of the pit falls which must be avoided if the original intention behind the Home Guards scheme is to bear fruit. Home Guards under various nomenclatures are present in several democratic countries. In Communist countries these voluntary bodies are imbued with a high degree of revolutionary consciousness and act as watch dogs of the public good. In Sri Lanka Home Guards must primarily be concerned with maintaining order in the neighbourhoods from which they are drawn. But the main imperative is that the scheme must be implemented in such a way that it will be above party politics and will not be anybody's instrument for scoring political points over their opponents.

'PAMPHLET WARFARE' BREAKS OUT BETWEEN TIGER GROUPS

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 20 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by D.B.S. Jeyaraj]

[Text]

Intense rivalry between the two terrorist groups in the North has erupted into pamphlet warfare.

Pamphlets and handbills now being circulated by the Umamaheswaran and Prabakaran groups in which each group praises itself while attacking the other.

Police sources believe that the pamphlets indicate the personality clash between Umamaheswaran and Prabakaran which split the terrorist movement.

The latest pamphlet to hit the streets of Jaffna according to the police is one that has been distributed by Prabakaran's group.

This pamphlet has been printed in India and is supposed to have been issued by the Central Committee of the Tiger organisation.

Police sources told 'The Island' that the pamphlet appears to be a rejoinder to pamphlets circulated earlier.

Cyclostyled pamphlets were issued following the shooting of Sivashanmugamoorthy at the Chitra Press in Jaffna. Police believe that Sivashanmugamoorthy was a lieutenant of Umamaheswaran and that he was shot by the Prabakaran group.

Following this, a pamphlet praising Sivashanmugamoorthy and condemning Prabakaran was circulated.

The pamphlet now being circulated seems to be a reply according to Police sources.

Police sources told 'The Island' that the pamphlet referred to Umamaheswaran as having been expelled from the Tiger movement after which Umamaheswaran, Sivashanmugamoorthy and two others had stolen weapons and money from the movement and formed a rival group.

Police said that the pamphlet also referred to certain treacherous elements being destroyed by the movement. This was a "necessary evil"

according to the pamphlet.

The pamphlet also says that Sivashanmugamoorthy had criticised Umamaheswaran's action earlier but had later become his 'general'.

Police sources said that while the pamphlets said to be issued by the Umamaheswaran group were cyclostyled or printed in Sri Lanka, Prabakaran's leaflets had been printed in India. This was the indication that Prabakaran's group was stronger in India while Umamaheswaran had more support in Sri Lanka.

Pamphlets of both groups condemned each other as traitors to the cause and sang praises of the exploits of their own group Police said.

Police also said that the pamphlets had helped to establish some of their theories about the terrorist movement. They also did not rule out the possibility of further killings in the fratricidal warfare between both groups.

CSO: 4220/479

GERMANS TO STUDY MAHAWELI PROBLEM

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 20 Mar 82 p 2

[Text]

"FOREIGN interest is focussed on Sri Lanka on account of the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme. This derives from the fact that the Accelerated Programme is a gigantic multipurpose project even by international standards." This statement of the Minister of Mahaweli Development, Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, is constantly confirmed by the numerous foreign experts who come to visit the different Mahaweli projects.

With Dr. Theodor Bergmann, Professor of Comparative International Farm Policies at West Germany's Agricultural University of Hohenheim, another distinguished name will be entered this week into the Mahaweli Programme's visitors book. Prof. Bergmann who, sponsored by the German Cultural Institute, is on a lengthy research tour through a number of Asian countries, will visit Systems B, C and H on invitation by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development. The visit will focus on questions of settlement and resettlement, a subject which is vital for the success of the Mahaweli Programme, and in which Prof. Bergmann is specialised after 5 years of experience as head of a research team in resettlement problems.

Settlement and resettlement in the Mahaweli area is also the subject of a seminar on March 23rd organised by the Agricultural Research and Training Institute as a discussion

forum for Prof. Bergmann and local top experts. This seminar will be opened by the Minister of Mahaweli Development who will also deliver the keynote.

Another highlight of Prof. Bergmann's visit to Sri Lanka will be a workshop on "The Role of Co-operation in Agriculture" which has been organised by the Marga Institute. This subject being another specialty of his, Prof. Bergmann is very eager to learn from his local counterparts more about the rich experience with co-operatives in Sri Lanka. On the other hand, he himself can contribute to the workshop his own experience which he gathered in many Asian Countries.

Prof. Bergmann's stay in Sri Lanka will be completed by a series of lectures on vital agricultural questions. On March 18th he gave a lecture in the University of Jaffna, on "Agrarian Reform and its Role in the Development process". On Friday, March 26th at 5 p.m. he will talk on "Concepts and Sociological Methods for the Analysis of Farm Policies".

And finally, on Saturday, March 27th at 9.30 a.m., he will deliver a lecture on "Choice of Technology in Farming and Industry" at the Biology Lecture Theatre, University of Colombo, (Colombo Campus) organised by the Sri Lanka Association for Advancement of Science.

UNITY SOUGHT IN SLFP

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 21 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike, addressing a meeting at Ratnapura, said that the attempts made by Messrs Maitripala Senanayake, Wijesiri, Sooriyarachchi

and others to align with the United National Party had not any results. But, heeding to the requests made by the people throughout the country, she had brought unity within the Sri Lanka Freedom

Party in order to defeat the UNP at the next general elections.

She said, "I am not prepared to betray those who stuck with me when we had fallen

I thank them for having been with me even while some who were in our party itself gave me trouble. Those who have come back should work together to defeat the UNP. If not, I would be compelled to punish them again."

She alleged that Mr. Maitripala Senanayake had strengthened the police guard at the Party Headquarters when he had heard about the unity talks that were being held. In fact, Mrs. Bandaranaike said, he had begun to come to the Headquarters under police guard.

"These are the kind of people who attempt to take over the leadership of the party" She said.

The President had made a new Parliament at a cost of Rs. 9000 million. The area got flooded during heavy rains. It was, therefore, necessary

that all those who expected to be a members of Parliament in the future should learn to swim, she added.

"There is the likelihood of an election being held in August next year. So we must become united and prepare for it from now on."

"J.R. has tied me up, and is now trying to gag me, too. But that is something he will not be able to do. In this, my homeland, I challenge Mr. Javawardene to give me back my civic rights and contest me at an election."

"Recently, J.R. has said that revelations of corruption in the Government would be rewarded with a gift of thousand rupees. This is an attempt to cut your necks and your jobs. If you want to lose both then you can reveal corruption."

Mrs. Bandaranaike asserted that when her party comes to power, every incidence of corruption resorted to by the UNP would be investigated.

"The country has gone down

to a low economic situation because of the free economic policies of this government. Foreign goods which cannot be sold elsewhere are heaped here. Motor cars thrown away in Britain, Singapore and Japan clog the roads of this country. As a result 72 percent of the Gross National Income is being spent on petrol. The balance is not sufficient to pay the interest on loans taken by the Finance Minister.

How could the country develop in this situation?"

"J.R. has said at the Law College that he needs another six years to develop the country. If in this period he has done this what will happen if another six years is given?"

She alleged that prime land in the Mahaveli region had been given to foreigners. Trincomalee was to be given to the Americans. Land in

Colombo had been given to UNP contractors while a Senior Minister's right-hand man had been given some valuable land at Galle Face. In addition to all this, she said, Ronnie de Mel had mortgaged the country to the outside world.

She said: "What we say do not appear in the newspapers. It is only 'The Island' and the 'Divaina' that we can depend on for even a little of what is happening in the country."

She alleged that the President had, at a Vihara recently, made a statement which was in bad taste.

Mrs. Bandaranaike said: "He (the President) had said that I asked him for a pardon. That is untrue. I have done no wrong to warrant my

seeking a pardon. My civic rights have been taken away on a personal grudge. I have not committed murder. My only fault is that I sought peace within the country."

Referring to the allegations made against her, she said that decisions made by the Cabinet and later ratified in Parliament, she had not ordered the arrest of any of the UNP members of Parliament. Although the President's son had been taken into custody on suspicion he had been released within 24 hours.

Her Government had handed over the Plantations corporation

with Rs. 100,000,000 to its credit in the Bank. Today it has had to take a Rs. 6000 million loan.

"Mrs. Bandaranaike asserted: "If we do come back in power, we will give the people subsidised food. We have already made the plans and will let the people know soon what we hope to do when we form the Government".

Among those who addressed the meeting were Messrs: T. B. Ilangaratne, Ratna Deshapriya Senanayake, Dharmadasa Wanniarachchi, and Vijaya Kumaranatunga.

NO PARDON FOR SLFP RENEGADES

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 21 Mar 82 p

[Article by Nandesena Suriyarachchi]

[Text]

Addressing a public rally at Ratnapura yesterday evening Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike said that while party unity had been achieved some of those who belonged to the Maithripala faction would not be taken back. Those named by her were Messrs R.P. Wijesiri, J.R.P. Suriyaperuma, P.B.G. Kalugalle S.K.K. Suriyaratchchi and Maithripala Senayake. Mrs. Bandaranaike alleged that certain people 'had got a contract from Mr. J.R. Jayewardene to ruin the SLFP' and that she was not prepared to work with them. She also praised those who had stayed with the party during the critical period and assured them that their role would not be forgotten. Mrs Bandaranaike said that while

those returning back to the fold of the party were welcome they should not be indulging in any 'games' if they attempted such moves they would once again be removed she said. Criticising Mr Maithripala Senanayake she said that on Friday night Mr Maithripala Senanayake had heard of unity moves and had got down policemen to protect the Darley Road Headquarters. Are you prepared to follow such leaders ? she asked. Referring to a speech made by President J.R. Jayewardene Bandaranaike said that she had neither asked nor would she ever ask Mr. Jayewardene to restore her civic rights. She said that Mr. Jayewardene as a man should fearlessly face her at a General Election

CSO: 4220/480

BANDARANAIKE SPEAKS ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 22 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, addressing a meeting at Ratnapura, said that the attempts made by Messrs Maitripala Senanayake, Wijesiri, Sooriya-rachchi and others to align with the United National Party had not any results. But heeding to the requests made by the people throughout the country she had brought unity within the Sri Lanka Freedom Party in order to defeat the UNP at the next general elections.

She said, "I am not prepared to betray those who stuck with me when we had fallen. I thank them for having been with me even while some who were in our party itself gave me trouble. Those who have come back should work together to defeat the UNP. If not, I would be compelled to punish them again."

She alleged that Mr Maitripala Senanayake had strengthened the police guard at the Party Headquarters when he had heard about the unity talks that were being held. In fact, Mrs. Bandaranaike said, he had begun to come to the Headquarters under police guard.

"These are the kind of people who attempt to take over the leadership of the party," she said.

The President had made a new Parliament at a cost of Rs. 9000 million. The area got flooded during heavy rains. It was therefore necessary that all those who expected to be a member of Parliament in the future should learn to swim, she added.

"There is the likelihood of an election being held in August next year. So we must become united and prepare for it from now on.

"J.R. has tied me up, and is now trying to gag me, too. But that is something he will not be able to do. In this, my homeland, I challenge Mr Jayawardene to give me back my civic rights and contest me at an election.

"Recently J.R. has said that revelations of corruption in the Government would be rewarded with a gift of thousand rupees. This is an attempt to cut your necks and your jobs. If you want to lose both then you can reveal corruption.

Mrs Bandaranaike asserted that when her party comes to power every incidence of corruption resorted to by the UNP would be investigated.

"The country has gone down to a low economic situation because of the free economic policies of this government. Foreign goods which cannot be sold elsewhere are heaped here. Motor cars thrown away in Britain, Singapore and Japan clog the roads of this country. As a result 72 percent of the Gross National Income is being spent on petrol. The balance is not sufficient to pay the interest on loans taken by the Finance Minister. How could the country develop in this situation?"

"J.R. has said at the Law College that he needs another six years to develop the country. If in this period he has done this what will happen if another six years is given?"

She alleged that prime land in the Mahaveli region had been given to foreigners. Trincomalee was to be given to the Americans. Land in

Colombo had been given to UNP contractors while a Senior Minister's right-hand man had been given some valuable land at Galle Face. In addition to all this, she said, Ronnie de Mel had mortgaged the country to the outside world.

She said: "What we say do not appear in the newspapers. It is only 'The Island' and the 'Divaina' that we can depend on for even a little of what is happening in the country."

She alleged that the President

had, at a Vihara recently, made a statement which was in bad taste.

Mrs. Bandaranaike said: "He (the President) had said that I asked him for a pardon. That is untrue. I have done no wrong to warrant my seeking a pardon. My civic rights have been taken away on a personal grudge. I have not committed murder. My only fault is that I sought peace within the country."

Referring to the allegations made against her, she said that decisions made by the Cabinet and later ratified in Parliament, she had not ordered the arrest of any of the UNP members of Parliament. Although the President's son had been taken into custody on suspicion he had been released within 24 hours.

Her Government had handed over the Plantations corporation

with Rs. 100,000,000 to its credit in the Bank. Today it has had to take a Rs. 6000 million loan.

"Mrs. Bandaranaike asserted: "If we do come back in power, we will give the people subsidised food. We have already made the plans and will let the people know soon what we hope to do when we form the Government".

Among those who addressed the meeting were Messrs. T.B. Ilangaratne, Ratna Deshapriya, Senanayake, Dharmadasa Wanniarachchi, and Vijaya Kumaranatunga.

SRI LANKA WORKERS FOR MIDDLE EAST PROJECTED

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 21 Mar 82 p 9

[Interview with Labour Minister Capt C.P.J. Seneviratne by Ravindran Casinader]

[Text]

Labour Minister Capt. C. P. J. Seneviratne is a veteran soldier who had served during the Second World War.

He was placed in charge of the Land Army during the UNP Government of 1965-70 when he acquitted himself in the forefront of the Grow-More-Food campaign.

During the insurrection of 1971, he was imprisoned by the Government of that time.

Today he is the MP for Mahiyangana and Minister for Labour.

Here he talks to 'The Island'.

Q: How do you propose, in keeping with the recent Cabinet decision, to find employment for 100,000 Sri Lankans in the Middle East, especially at a time when expatriate employment in those countries is being scaled down?

A: According to my information, the intake of expatriates in the Middle East is not been cut down. In certain states in the Gulf, building construction is coming to an end. But certainly there are other sectors in those countries which still take quite a number of expatriates.

I hope to achieve the target of 100,000 with the help of the private sector within the framework of the law. The Secretary of my Ministry and the Secretary to the Ministry of Plan Implementation have been jointly having a constant dialogue with representatives of private employment agencies who have personal contacts in those countries.

There are 145 licensed agents of whom at least 35 have a very good performance. If each of those 35 agents find employment for about 3,000 persons, we should be able to meet our target.

As for my Department, this year alone we have found employment for 400 Sri Lankans in the Middle East.

Q: Why is it that you had recently summoned only some registered agents for a conference?

A: That is because only those agencies had shown reasonable performance. The others, though licensed, had not sent many persons abroad.

Q: Ministers come and ministers go, and there are many caravans to the Middle East. But do we need such ministerial and high executive forays or do we not need special officers in the Gulf area to feed us with adequate information with regard to employment opportunities there?

A: I go abroad only once a year. I am all for having special officers in the Gulf area to help us. In fact, we have an Assistant Commissioner of Labour posted to our mission in Abu Dhabi.

Q: It was mentioned a few days ago that remittances made by our expatriates in the Middle East are second to the income from tea. But are there any attempts to educate the families of the migrants on how they could invest their money?

A: We have recently set up a special unit in the Ministry to rehabilitate returnee migrants and advise them how best they could invest their money. For instance, we tell them where they could get a good piece of cultivable land or what businesses could be most profitable for them. But this is a free country and we can never compel anyone to invest in areas that we want them to.

Q: Have you had any complaints of employment agents demanding money? If so, what action have you taken?

A: Yes, there have been several complaints and the Labour Department has taken action in most cases. Very often the complaints are vague and are reluctant to give evidence in court.

Q: Looking at advertisements appearing in the newspapers there seem to be wide discrepancies in salaries that are paid to various categories. Has there been any attempt to stop exploitation where some agencies try to keep part of the salaries?

A: Our Department is alert about such things. Every registered agency is monitored by our Department.

Q: There are rumours that blood relatives of certain Ministers are running employment agencies and get a lot of information through official channels. Are you aware of any such cases?

A: No.

Q: If there are, don't you think they are a misuse of power.

A: I don't think so. Why shouldn't blood relatives of Ministers be entitled to the same rights as other citizens.

Q: A few days ago your Chief Clerk was caught accepting a bribe. Do you think there is widespread corruption of this nature in your own Ministry?

A: He is not the Chief Clerk, but the clerical head of the Labour Department. But how many patriotic government servants do we have in this country? You find incidents of this nature everywhere.

Q: Do you think our labour laws are too advanced for a developing country and might scare away potential foreign investors?

A: I don't think so at all. In fact, some of our labour laws legislated recently, were long overdue. Our workers have not had a fair deal for a long time. Even in the case of maternity benefits which provide for 42 days leave, some sections of the Government feel that this should be extended to three months.

Q: Do you think the joint Employer-Employee Consultative Councils in the Free Trade Zone are an alternative to Trade Unions? Since these Councils, by nature, have a fifty-fifty representation, does this not mean that though the workers can discuss problems at meetings there is no redress for them if they want to resort to trade union action?

A: I am not aware of such Employer-Employee Consultative Councils. But workers are allowed to form trade unions if they want to.

Q: What is the position with regard to night work for women? Have we denounced the ILO Convention? Are people allowed to employ women at night?

A: We have denounced the ILO Convention. But our law has not yet been changed and as such women cannot be employed at night under the present law. We are collecting the necessary data on various

opinions on this matter. Many women have said that they should not be discriminated against in being prevented from working night shifts.

Any change in our law in this respect would be aimed at removing this discrimination against women. But the new law will also ensure adequate safeguards for women on night duty. They should be provided with a matron while on duty, a rest room and transport facilities.

And no woman shall be compelled to work at night. Nor shall mothers with infants be encouraged to work night shifts unless, of course, they so desire.

Q: With regard to EPF, when a private employer does not remit his contribution to the employee's EPF, and if the establishment is sold to another, does the onus of paying the EPF fall on the new owner?

A: Employers who default payment of EPF for over one month are liable to a surcharge of 10-15 percent. Even if ownership is transferred those employers will be

still liable for defaults upto the time of the transfer of the ownership.

Q: What about private estates taken over by the Government under the Land Reform Commission law?

A: The Corporations concerned have retained monies from compensation due to the former employers to pay arrears of EPF contributions.

Q: With regard to repatriation, one reason given for the overstay of repatriates is that many of them have not been paid their EPF by their respective employers. What action have you taken in this matter.

A: It is incorrect to say that there are delays in the payment of EPF to repatriates. Our own experience is that they are paid within a fortnight.

Q: There has been a lot of talk about the Veddahs who are to be moved out of Mahiyangana. What do you feel, as MP for the area about the whole situation?

A: In the whole of Mahiyangana there are no more than 50 Veddah families. And most of them are living in a Veddah colony built by the Government on the recommendation of the Kandyan Pearantry Commission. The colony has 27 cottages, a very good school, a central dispensary and a tank to irrigate 50 acres of paddy. This settlement was formed when I was MP during the period 1960-65.

It now so happens that due to the Mahaweli Right Bank extending to Maduru Ora, a section of the Kandaganwela colony is going to be submerged at the western end while the eastern end will come under wild life sanctuary.

In actual fact, the Government has not decided to move these Veddhas out. The Government will, however, give the option to the Veddhas to either move out of Mahiyangana or live within the wild life sanctuary if they wish to.

Already 3-4 non Veddah villages have expressed their willingness to move out.

BRIEFS

FALLING TEA PRICES THREATEN FARMERS--About 10 lakhs of people who depend on tea small holdings for their living are threatened with the prospect of being driven to the wall due to falling tea prices, the Secretary to the Ministry of Plantation Industries, Oliver Fernando, said yesterday. The Secretary said that because the profit from a pound of tea had fallen tremendously the tea small holders were finding it difficult to make ends meet. The Secretary was speaking at a seminar organised by the Tea Small Holdings Development Authority at the ARTI yesterday. The Minister of Plantation Industries Maj. Montague Jayawickrema said arrangements would be made to distribute 25 percent of the profits of the tea factories belonging to the TSHDA among the small holders as a remedial measure. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 19 Mar 82 p 2]

DROUGHT RAVAGES NORTH--Relief measures to rehabilitate drought stricken peasants are inadequate compared to the ravage caused throughout the country. Although an estimated sum of Rs. six million is required monthly to grant relief to drought hit cultivators, the government is now spending only Rs. two million per month. Eighteen districts are affected by the prolonged drought and the worst hit district is Anuradhapura where about 80,000 families are in distress. In this year's budget allocations the government has set apart only rupees fifty lakhs for the relief fund. People in drought-stricken areas are using contaminated water and there is an outbreak of cholera, dysentery and skin diseases. In the meantime, the District Minister, Anuradhapura, Mr H.B. Abeyratna has taken steps to have 500 tube wells dug immediately in the district to provide drinking water to the peasants. Each well will cost about Rs. 7,500. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 19 Mar 82 p 3]

NORTHERN TERRORISTS ARRESTED--Three terrorists were arrested in the heart of the Killinochchi jungles on Thursday night after a gun battle with the Police, DIG Northern Range, Mr A. Navaratnam said yesterday. On receiving information that the house of a leading businessman in the Killinochchi area had been attacked by terrorists, a police party promptly rushed to the spot. Seeing them at a distance the attackers had fled into the jungle with police held on their heels. The terrorists had finally taken shelter in a house in the jungle and had fired at the police who returned the fire and after a hectic gun battle the police had succeeded in arresting the terrorists. The businessman whose residence had been attacked is stated to have gone to

Colombo leaving some cash behind. This money had been robbed by the gang. After questioning the three persons arrested, police had been able to arrest four more suspects who are alleged to be involved in the Uruththurapuram robbery of a CTB bus two months ago. The police believe that all seven persons in custody are involved in major terrorist activities in the Northern Province. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 20 Mar 82 p 1]

MUSLIM-TAMIL RIOTING--Fourteen people were warded in the Jaffna hospital and 50 persons taken into custody following a clash which occurred between Muslim and Tamil residents in Jaffna yesterday. The incident which had been sparked due to a minor incident which took place at Kottady Muslim Street spread and despite appeals made through vans with speakers police found it hard to contain it. The MP for Jaffna, Mr Y. Yogeswaran and the MP for Kopay Mr A.M. Allalasunderam made personal appeals to the residents to remain calm. Poles, knives and sticks were used when the two factions clashed. Late in the evening some people were injured when a stick of dynamite had been hurled. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 21 Mar 82 p 1]

BABY BOOM MAY DOUBLE POPULATION--The population of Sri Lanka is predicted to double in forty years time and measures have to be taken with forethought. Thus observed Trincomalee Additional Government Agent Mr N. Pathmanathan at the motivation seminar on Population Problems. Kantalai A.G.A. Mr Asoka Jayasinghe presided. The Sinhala medium seminar organised by the Trincomalee District Population committee was held at the Kantalai Agrobiothy Madhya Maya Vidyalaya. Mr Pathmanathan further stated that the country's population was now approximately 15 million and it took 2,500 years to reach that point. Going by present trends it was predicted that it would take only 40 years for the population to double. That showed the gravity of the population problem of the country. The increasing baby boom because more complex in our island with its limited land resources and heavy commitments to social welfare measures. It would therefore be difficult to cope with the problem. Additional G.A., Mr K.G. Ariyathasa, AGA Headquarters, Mr Robert de Silva visiting Physician, Mr L.M. Wijeyasooriya and several others also spoke. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 13 Mar 82 p 3]

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